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## VETERINARY COUNTER-PRACTICE.

A SECOND EDITION of this popular work has just been published. In its revision we have had the assistance of two competent veterinary surgeons, who have carefully gone over the book and made a number of additions and alterations. The new edition also contains a chapter of new and alternative formulas; and although the book is larger the price remains the same (3s. 6d.), or by post 3s. 9d. It can be obtained from most wholesale houses at the published price.

## OUR SUMMER NUMBER.

THE Publisher invites applications for space in the issue of July 25, which will be the Summer Number—one of those half-yearly issues of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST which have become noted for their artistic production, and business-value to advertisers and buyers alike. We shall be stitching circulars and price-lists in the issue; and as there will be no other opportunity this year of so distributing circulars and price-lists through THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, it is advisable that those who are thinking of having an inset should settle the matter soon. Others who are not so thinking should see that they have a specially good advertisement in the number—attractive and well displayed in respect to arrangement, and seasonable and business-inviting in respect to the goods. Advertisers should also bear in mind that their announcements in the Summer Number will appeal to a large and important colonial and foreign *clientèle*, who buy readily and well such goods as may suit them.

## Summary.

A FEW good novelties are described on p. 899.

A NUMBER of cuttings are reported on pp. 884-5.

THE Yorkshire relish case, it appears, is to be carried to the House of Lords (p. 892).

THE *Lancet* would like to see the repetition of prescriptions put down by law (p. 897).

SEVERAL correspondents communicate the formula for Congreve's stronger liniment (p. 910).

SOME further negotiations in regard to the arbitration methods of Mincing Lane are given on p. 896.

THE Council of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association met this week, and is reported on p. 898.

THE Royal Agricultural Society's show at Leicester contains few novelties interesting to the drug trade (p. 896).

By the assistance of subscribers we have got a little further back in the history of "Chelsea Pensioner" (p. 907).

DR. KENNY, the Dublin coroner, expresses his views about the sale of chloroform by chemists in an inquest reported on p. 886.

A CORRESPONDENT points out a curious instance of presumed encouragement of cutting in respect to Ruspini's stypic (p. 908).

SCOTCH friendly societies appear to desire association with pharmacy. We note a proposal by the Dundee societies to start an open dispensary in that city (p. 886).

OUR Paris Correspondent was present at a meeting held in the Gay City on Monday, whereat the evils of cutting were discussed, and proposals to stop the practice put forward. The report is on p. 887.

MR. CHARLES LEDGER still maintains that he has been badly treated by the Dutch Government, and gives further particulars of his own and Dr. Haskarl's struggles to get the true cinchona-seeds in a letter on p. 908.

THE *Medical Press* calls upon the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland to do something to put down counter-prescribing, which it thinks the Society can do. We comment upon the matter and upon doctors dispensing (p. 895).

MR LENNOX, who has assisted Prof. Dewar in all his dangerous experiments, has had an eye knocked out by an explosion of acetylene (p. 884), the explosive force of which has just been determined by Prof. Clowes (p. 891).

THE last meeting of the Chemical Society, reported on p. 891, was exceptionally interesting, a number of topics allied to pharmacy being discussed. M. Moissan was present, and there was a ballot, with some blackballing.

TWO other Wolverhampton chemists have been fined for selling ipecacuanha-wine deficient in alcohol by about 2 per cent. and containing 0.27 gr. of salicylic acid per oz. (p. 892). We comment upon the cases and on the use of preservatives in medicine (p. 894).

TWO HUNDRED POUNDS seems a lot to pay for having sold two bottles of Winslow's syrup, but an unqualified man, whom the Pharmaceutical Society proceeded against at Blackpool, is reported to have had to pay that, and more, in fines and costs. A Greenwich assistant has also been fined (p. 892).

THERE are some interesting matters in our report of the North British Branch annual meeting. The Branch is acquiring important *materia-medica* collections, the Society's strength in Scotland is increasing, Messrs. Mitchell and McLaren are the new members of Executive, and English members complain of Scotch plumping (p. 890).

THIS number completes our forty-eighth volume. An index is inserted between pp. 896 and 897, which, as a complete summary of the twenty-six numbers, should be bound along with them.



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#### Science Papers.

The International Conference arranged by the Royal Society to consider proposals for an international catalogue of scientific literature will be formally opened at the Society's rooms in Burlington House on Tuesday, July 14. A reception of the delegates will be held by the President of the Royal Society on the previous evening, and they will be entertained at dinner at the Hôtel Métropole on July 14. On the 15th they will be received by the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House, and on the afternoon of the 16th Dr. Ludwig Mond, F.R.S., will have a garden-party at his house in Avenue Road, where they will have an opportunity of meeting English men of science generally. Forty delegates will attend the Conference, including representatives of the principal colonies of the Empire and the principal Governments of the world. The British Government will be represented by Sir John Gorst.

#### Explosion at the Royal Institution.

On Tuesday, June 16, the gauge attached to a cylinder in which acetylene, which was being manufactured from calcium carbide, was being compressed, burst with great violence. Mr. Lennox, Professor Dewar's assistant, who was standing near, was struck by the fragments, and was so much injured that he had to be taken to Guy's Hospital, where it was found that one eye was totally destroyed. The eye has been removed, and Mr. Lennox is progressing very favourably. [Mr. Lennox is the gentleman who has assisted Professor Dewar in his most dangerous experiments, and the fact that his first severe injury has been received from acetylene is an emphatic indication of the dangers of that gas.—ED. C. & D.]

#### Prize for Industrial Hygiene.

The Council of the Society of Arts are prepared to award, under the terms of the Benjamin Shaw trust, a gold medal, or a prize of 20*l.* The medal, under the conditions laid down by the testator, is to be given "for any discovery, invention, or newly-devised method for obviating or materially diminishing any risk to life, limb, or health, incidental to any industrial occupation, and not previously capable of being so obviated or diminished by any known and practically available means." Intending competitors should send in descriptions of their inventions not later than December 31, 1896, to the Secretary of the Society of Arts, Adelphi, London, W.C. The judges will be appointed by the Council. The Council reserve the right of withholding the prize or of awarding a smaller prize or smaller prizes, if in the opinion of the judges nothing deserving the full award is sent in.

#### Fire at a Chemists'.

A small fire occurred, on June 17, in the establishment of Messrs. Young & Co., chemists and druggists, High Wycombe. A preparation containing turpentine was being melted when the mixture caught fire. Mr. Coley, who was superintending the work, endeavoured to carry the burning can into the yard, but owing to the heat he was forced to drop it. The can fell on the cellar steps, and the burning contents ran into the cellar. The flames were subdued before much damage had been done.

#### Drug-contracts.

The Midhurst Guardians contract with Mr. A. Mills for arrowroot at 8*d.* per lb., carbolic soap at 3*d.* per lb., and linseed-meal at 2*d.* per lb., and with Mr. R. M. for cod-liver oil at 14*s.* 8*d.* per gallon.

The Isle of Wight Guardians have appointed Messrs. A. Millidge, R. Smith & Pollard, of Newport, to supply druggists' goods to the workhouse during the ensuing quarter.

The Cirencester Guardians have accepted the tender of Messrs. Monde & Arnold for snlphur at 2*d.* per lb., and of Messrs. Gillett & Co. for arrowroot at 7*d.* per lb., and linseed-meal at 16*s.* per cwt.

The Duxford Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Messrs. Payne & Co., of Bishop's Waltham, for the supply of crushed linseed at 2*d.* per lb., arrowroot at 6*d.* per lb., and of Mr. A. Clark, of Duxford, for carbolic soap at 1*l.* 1*l.* per cwt.

#### New Industries for Runcorn.

The directors of the United Alkali Company have decided to commence the manufacture of dry soap and blue at the Camden Soapworks, formerly belonging to Messrs. Hazlehurst, at Runcorn. Hitherto the production of the articles has been carried on at Greenbank Works, St. Helens, but the transfer will be made as early as possible. The outlook for the district, where severe depression has long prevailed through the want of activity in the chemical-trade, is of a more hopeful character than it has been for some time.

#### Alleged Cheque Frauds.

At Margate Police Court, on June 15, James B. McAvoy was brought up in custody charged with obtaining the sum of 3*l.* from Mr. Herbert Ray, chemist and druggist, Cecil Square, Margate, by false pretences, on April 2, 1894. Mr. Ray stated that he knew the prisoner as the son of a dentistry patient of his. On the date mentioned he asked him to cash a cheque for 6*s.* 10*d.* Witness stated he would do so, but as he had only 3*l.* 10*s.* in charge, prisoner took that and said he would call for the balance on the following day. Prisoner subsequently handed witness 10*s.* back and took the 3*l.* The following morning he called for another sovereign, but witness told him that he could have it when it was all ready. He saw no more of the prisoner until he was in custody. Witness paid the cheque into the London and County Bank, but it was returned to him marked "No account." Witness kept the cheque for two years, and then, thinking he would hear no more of the prisoner, destroyed it. The drawers of the cheque were "Ingram, Cooper & Mears," and it was payable to James E. McAvoy, and was drawn on a Dorchester bank. Prisoner, who was arrested in London, was remanded.

#### Disowning His Wife.

At the Newport Police Court, on Saturday, Mr. L. Moore, solicitor, applied to the Magistrates for an order against Moses Abel, described as a dentist, of Commercial Road, for payment of 3*l.* due under a maintenance order made in respect of his wife. Defendant did not appear, but he sent a letter to the court enclosing 30*s.*, one week's allowance. Mr. Moore pressed for an order for payment forthwith. Defendant compelled the complainant, who was in delicate health and had been ordered into the Infirmary, to attend the court each time. The Magistrates' Clerk said he did not think the defendant was in a position to pay. On a previous occasion he was in prison for three or four days before the money was paid. Mr. Moore called Mrs. Abel, who, in answer to questions, said her husband still had an assistant and servants at his establishments in Commercial Road; he was also living with another woman. Defendant, when he wrote to witness, addressed the letters in her maiden name. The Bench made an order for payment forthwith, together with the costs, including 10*s.* 6*d.* towards the advocate's fee.

#### Trips and Festivities.

The one hundred and nineteenth anniversary dinner of Messrs. G. B. Kent & Sons, of brush fame, was held on Saturday last, Brighton being again the spot chosen for the gathering. A select party, consisting of the chiefs and visitors, travelled by the 11.40 saloon train, the employés having started earlier in the day. About 150 (consisting solely of the sterner sex) sat down to an excellent dinner in the banqueting-hall of the Royal Pavilion. Mr. G. Harold Kent, the senior partner, presided, supported by Messrs. Arthur B. and Ernest N. Kent. After the loyal toasts were duly honoured, Mr. S. Studd proposed that of "The Firm,"

to which the Chairman and Mr. Arthur B. Kent responded. The latter gentleman, who had recently returned from a successful business-trip in the States, related some of his reminiscences whilst there. The toast of "The Employés" was next proposed, to which Messrs. Humphreys and C. Wood replied, the latter in a witty speech returning thanks on behalf of the West-end staff. At this juncture the Chairman fulfilled the pleasant duty of presenting a handsome demi-hunter gold watch to Mr. Benwell, which had been subscribed for by the employés, in commemoration of his completion of fifty years' service with the firm. Mr. Benwell, in returning thanks, made an excellent speech, alluding to the harmonious relations which existed throughout the staff. Other toasts were "The Harold Benevolent" and "The Visitors," for whom Mr. G. Symes Bell and Mr. Parker replied. Lastly, on the proposal of "Lesser Columbus," the Chairman's health was heartily drunk, and the party was afterwards photographed in the grounds. The majority of the trippers stayed by the sea as long as the railway company would allow them, and they had the benefit of a glorious evening. Mr. Tindley officiated as steward with his customary efficiency.

It does not often happen that trade trips are made to London. We note, however, that the English Diastasic Malt-extract Company (otherwise known as the "Edme" Company) lately took all their employés from Mistley, in Essex, where the works are situated, by special train to the metropolis for their annual outing. Accompanied by the principals of the firm, the party visited several of the chief places of interest. The whole company afterwards turned up at Olympia, where a most elaborate repast was placed before the guests by Messrs. Lyons & Co., the "Edme" Company defraying all expenses.

The annual outing of the staff and employés of Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son was held on Saturday, June 20, when a large party proceeded by an early train to Margate. The morning was spent in boating, &c., and at 12.30 a capital dinner was provided at the Crown Hotel. The toast of "Prosperity and Success to the Firm" was proposed by the manager, Mr. E. J. Tucker, and received with enthusiasm. Mr. Fickling, one of the travellers, responded. In the afternoon the party proceeded by brakes to Ramsgate, where tea was provided, and the return journey to London was effected at a late hour. The arrangements for the party were successfully carried out by the hon. sec. (Mr. H. Gillard).

The first Sunday outing of the Chemists' Club took place on June 21, when a number of chemists, from all parts of London, visited Windsor and the river. These outings are to be held on the third Sunday in each month till the end of September. The July trip will be to Weybridge.

#### Chemists at Cricket.

Davy, Yates & Hicks' C.C. played Allenburies' C.C. at Brockley on June 20, and won by 27 runs. Scores: D., Y. & H. 74, Allenburies' 47. For the winners T. Sibley scored 16; and E. Sibley captured 6 wickets for 13 runs and A. Wilton 3 wickets for 3 runs.

The May & Baker C.C. played the Stanley Engineering Works C.C. at Raynes Park on June 20, and defeated them by 121 runs to 59 runs. Messrs. Arnold (47), Andrews (19), and Blenkinsop (14) were the chief scorers for the winners.

A match was played at Nunhead, on Saturday last, between Barron Harveys C.C. and the Pharmaceutical Society C.C., resulting in a win for the former by 7 runs. The scores were:—B.H. C.C., 57 (R. K. Harvey 22); P.S. C.C., 50 (Lee not out 19, Lean 17).

#### Described as a Chemist.

Allen Carswell, described as a chemist, and his wife were charged at the Bolton Police Court on June 23 with being drunk and disorderly, and the male prisoner was also charged with an assault on the police. Fines were imposed. The name does not appear on the register of chemists and druggists.

#### Three Months for a Chemist's Watch.

At the Lambeth Police Court, on Monday, Ed. Clegg, a labourer, was charged with stealing a watch and chain, the

property of Mr. Wm. Ellis, a chemist, of New Kent Road. The prosecutor stated that one night recently he was set upon by the prisoner and two other roughs, and in the scuffle he lost his watch and chain, which were afterwards found in the possession of the prisoner. The accused pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

#### Cyanide of Potassium as a Sedative.

Colonel Charles S. Graham, a prominent resident at Clifton, died on June 20 from the effects of taking cyanide of potassium. At the inquest held on Monday, Dr. Edward Long Fox, the medical attendant of the deceased, said the Colonel was a very active man, largely engaged in good works in Clifton. He had been informed that the deceased did not sleep well on the Friday night, and he thought it possible he might have taken the solution as a sedative, especially as he had been sick, and cyanide of potassium gave off a gas which was a remedy for vomiting. The Coroner said there would seem to be no earthly reason why Colonel Graham should think of taking that which would kill him, and the jury returned a verdict of death from misadventure.



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#### Guardians Grumble.

The Guardians of the North Dablin Union have characterised as "a farce" the chemical analysis of milk made by Sir Charles Cameron.

A section of the Carrick Board of Guardians cavil at a requisition from the workhouse medical officer for surgical appliances, on the ground, as they put it, that every carpenter should provide his own tools.

The Local Government Board has notified the Abbeyleix Guardians that if they continue to order medicines not included in the British Pharmacopœia the amount expended will be disallowed. This decision has given great umbrage to the Guardians, who say the medicine-list requires revision, and threaten to ventilate the matter in Parliament. They condemn the red tape of the Local Government Board in standing in the way of medical reform.

#### The Liability of Chemists.

At Bailieboro' Quarter Sessions, on June 20, Robert Armstrong, chemist, Cootehill, was sued for 45*l.*, value of two horses poisoned by drinking water from a barrel in his yard. Judge Waters, in his judgment, stated the facts of the case. He said Burns and Chambers brought each a horse and cart into Cootehill on February 19 to sell pigs at the market. They brought their horses to Armstrong's yard, where he receives horses and cattle, and they put up their horses there when they arrived. They asked the yard-man if he had any water to give to the horses. He said, "Plenty of water," and went to where there were three barrels. He examined two of the barrels and said the water was too low for the horses to drink, and then went to the third barrel, on the top of which there was a hamper and under the hamper a loose lid. He removed both and said, "There is plenty of water; bring over your horses." They did so and the horses drank. Both horses died that night, and it is plain, from the certificate of Professor Tichborne, that there was arsenic in great quantity in the water, and that the horses died from drinking it, as traces of the same poison were found in their intestines. To maintain an action of this kind it must be proved that the injury was wilfully caused by the defendant or by negligence of the defendant or his servants. No proof has been given by the plaintiffs of any such negligence. Mr. Armstrong charges for the stand of horses on Fridays, the regular

market days, and gives Wednesdays free. On that point he would decide it was the same as if he were paid by the week. It had been argued that negligence must be assumed from the fact of the accident happening. If he took that view, what negligence would he assume except the negligence of the keeping of arseunic by Armstrong? It was proved by the defendant that he keeps arsenic under lock and key, and that he keeps the key himself. It might appear plain that as arsenic was found in the barrel he was responsible for the accident, but this action can only be maintained by showing the negligence of the defendant in careless keeping of arseunic. He might assume negligence, but Mr. Armstrong swore positively that he keeps preparations of arseunic locked up in a press in his shop, not outside in the yard; that he keeps the key in his possession, and that no one had access to it but himself. He was obliged, unwillingly, to come to the conclusion there was no negligence or wilful act proved. There was not the slightest evidence that the arsenic got into the barrel through any negligence on the part of the defendant, and he, therefore, had come to the conclusion that he was not liable. One of the cases was adjourned to next sessions, pending the result of an appeal in the other. This course was agreed to.

#### The Sale of Chloroform.

Dr. Kenny, the Dublin City Coroner, held an inquest on June 22 concerning the death of Mrs. A. Kerrigan, who, as the evidence showed, had died from chloroform accidentally taken during its application for the relief of neuralgia.

Mr. H. S. Misshear, pharmaceutical chemist, 68 Upper Clarendon Street, deposed that a girl presented a paper (produced) on which was written, "Please give bearer small bottle of chloroform." It was signed, "A. Kerrigan, 16 Rathlin Terrace, Kimmage." Witness asked the girl if the chloroform was required for toothache. She said it was, and he gave her a bottle containing  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., and told her to be careful of it, as it was poison. Chloroform is not among the poisons which druggists are compelled to enter in the "sale of poison book." He frequently sold poison without a medical order, but he was always satisfied as to the person for whom it was intended. He was satisfied with regard to the written order in question.

The Coroner questioned Mr. Misshear as to the sale of chloroform without a medical order, and as to whether it was not more dangerous than oxalic acid, which Mr. Misshear said was also sold without an order. "Is it not one of the usual pious frauds of chemists to give a little chloroform in spirit of wine?" asked Dr. Kenny. Mr. Misshear said it was done where you would not be sure of the person. Pure chloroform was sold by all chemists in the city.

The Coroner: Your legal position is quite right, but if I were asked for pure chloroform I should hesitate before giving anything like  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of chloroform without a medical order. I hope you will be a little more cautious in the future. You are quite within your legal rights, and have given your evidence fairly and explicitly, but I will tell the jury of the moral aspect of the question. A man does many a duty within his legal right, but he is often subject to criticism, and very sharp criticism, if he does not use his legal rights with discretion. Chloroform is a dangerous drug to manipulate. Oxalic acid is not so.

The Coroner then, addressing the jury, said that in his opinion no drug of the insidious character of chloroform should be sold without restrictions. There was no parallel between that drug and oxalic acid, because if the cork came out of the bottle or the latter got broken, and the drug was inhaled, the person might be killed.

A juror asked could a druggist sell three half-ounces as well as one?

The Coroner said he could sell a ton of it in the present state of the law. Half an ounce was a poisonous dose, and in his opinion should not be sold.

The jury found that death was due to poisoning by chloroform accidentally taken to relieve neuralgia. They added the following:—"We consider that the sale of chloroform under circumstances such as were detailed in this case without an order from a doctor is dangerous, and ought to be discouraged."

"DIASTALIN" has been registered as a trade-mark in the United States by Messrs. Fairchild Bros. & Foster, New York.



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#### Edinburgh Chemists' Excursion.

The annual excursion of the Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association took place on Wednesday, June 17. The trip was from Edinburgh by Cowlairs to Craignethan, thence by steamer up Loch Long to Arrochar, and from Tarbet down Loch Lomond to Balloch, returning home by train. The company numbered about 130 ladies and gentlemen, including 30 from Glasgow. Unfortunately the weather, which on Tuesday was very sultry, had broken up during the night, and the party started from Waverley station about 9 A.M. in steady rain. The Glasgow contingent joined the train at Cowlairs, and when Craignethan was reached and the steamer for Loch Long had been boarded, the weather conditions were far from cheering. The company, however, made up their minds to take what came, and although the mist and rain completely shut out the magnificent scenery of Loch Long they seemed to enjoy themselves. The drive from Arrochar to Tarbet was accomplished in drenching rain; but on arriving at the Tarbet Hotel the chemists found a most inviting dinner awaiting them, to which they did ample justice, and it acted as a set-off to their earlier misfortune. Before rising from the dinner-table Mr. W. L. Currie, President of the Glasgow Association, proposed the toast "Success to the Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association." In doing so he expressed the thanks of the Glasgow Association for the invitation they had received to join them. He hoped it would not be the last time they would meet in such happy circumstances. He coupled the toast with the name of Mr. John Bowman, the President, who occupied the chair. The toast was responded to with great cordiality, three special cheers being given for Mrs. Bowman, who was present. After dinner the rain cleared off, and the company were photographed by Mr. James McGlashan, Edinburgh, a member of the party. The interval till tea-time was spent in walking in the vicinity and viewing the magnificent scenery. After tea the company re-embarked on the steamer and steamed down Loch Lomond to Balloch. This part of the excursion occupied an hour and a half, and was greatly enjoyed. With the exception of a slight shower the weather was all that could be desired, and the Queen of Scottish Lakes was seen to the best advantage. The mist cap on Ben Lomond and the surrounding hills occasionally lifted, and they stood out in all their majesty; even the rain of the earlier part of the day added to the effect in the many cascades that rushed down the steep declivities. When Balloch was reached the company betook themselves to their saloon carriages, and were soon on their way home. The Glasgow contingent dropped off at Cowlairs, and the train reached Edinburgh about 9.30 P.M., all being fully satisfied with the day's enjoyment, and expressing their pleasure at the admirable arrangements which were carried out by the committee, and especially by Mr. C. F. Henry, the hon. secretary of the Association.

#### Friendly Societies' Drug-shops.

A meeting of delegates representing the various friendly societies in Dundee have approved of a recommendation of a committee, appointed to inquire into the cost of starting and working a medical dispensary, to open such a dispensary in the town. The committee recommend that the capital should be fixed at 400*l.*, this amount being based on the following assumption:—Estimated cost of stock, 150*l.*; estimated cost of fittings, 100*l.*; estimated working capital, 150*l.*; total, 400*l.* The running expenses are computed as follows:—Dispensers' wages, 100*l.*; rent (central shop), 60*l.*; taxes, 15*l.*; gas and sundries, 20*l.*; interest on capital, 16*l.*; total, 211*l.* This amount it is proposed to raise by a con-

tribution of 9d. per member per annum, which, with a membership of 4,500, would give 172*l.* 10*s.*, or 38*l.* 10*s.* short; but, as the shop would be central and fitted up in good style, the committee are confident that they would have large public sales, and the profits accruing therefrom would far more than make up the deficiency. In Greenock last year, where there are only 3,000 members, and where the population is less than half of Dundee, they sold 314*l.* worth of goods to the public, the cost, including their own requirements, being 117*l.* After paying their dispenser, rent, &c., the profit came out at about 10*l.* The proposal thus set forth must be approved of by the various societies before it is adopted. It has arisen from a dispute with medical men, who object to supply medicine at the low fees hitherto received by them, and have suggested that the members should pay for that themselves.

#### Edinburgh Botanising.

Local assistants and apprentices did not turn up on Friday evening, June 5, there being a heavy rain, so Mr. W. B. Cowie, who was to conduct the party to Blackford Hill, went somewhere else. On Friday, June 12, there was a good attendance at 36 York Place for the botanical demonstration by Mr. J. R. Hill. The most interesting specimens were *Lychnis diurna*, *Myosotis hirsutus*, *Primula vulgaris*, and a fine specimen of *Scilla verna*, sent by Mr. Alexander Sutherland from the island of Unst, the most northern of the Shetland group. An excursion, conducted by Mr. William Duncan, to Colinton Dell on Friday, June 19, was a success. About forty members left the Caledonian Station by train at 8.30 P.M., and returned through the Dell and then by Redhall to Slateford, where some took train back to town, while others walked on, marching to the strains of popular choruses led by Mr. Rowland. At present there is a proposal to have the paths in the Dell put in a better state; and at the opening of the Dell the party was intercepted by a collector, who got 5*s.* 10*d.* out of the party towards the Improvement Fund. And they got the worth of the money in plants.

#### French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

DEATH OF AN OCTOGENARIAN PHARMACIST.—M. Martin J. B. Bonnet, retired pharmacist, died at Sault at the age of 83. He had been in business at Sault de Vaucluse for over half a century. He was the author of a dictionary of pharmacy and accessory sciences and other works, and was one of the founders of the Société des Amis des Sciences, formed for assisting savants in distress.

PARIS SOCIETY OF PHARMACY.—At the last meeting of the Paris Society of Pharmacy M. Planchon announced that he is preparing a new catalogue of the *materia medica* collection of the School of Pharmacy. He mentioned that he desired to collect the different varieties of each drug which have been used in pharmacy, and said he would be glad to receive from pharmacists samples of such drugs addressed to the Paris School of Pharmacy. At the same meeting M. Delpech reminded the members that the current year (1896) is the centenary of the Society of Pharmacy. M. Planchon mentioned that he had already drawn attention to the circumstance at a previous meeting.

AN OPENING.—The following advertisement, which has just been published, shows that pharmacy in France is not always rewarded by a brilliant success:—“Sale, by public auction, at the Chamber of Notaries, 36 Rue de Paradis, Marseilles, by Maître Alfred Raynaud, notary, on Tuesday, June 30, at 10 A.M., of the business of a pharmacy, known as the Pharmacie Centrale, 11 Rue Noailles, Marseilles. The sale will take place by order of M. J. B. Thomas, Official Receiver of the estate of the late Alexandre Barbato, pharmacist, Marseilles, in liquidation. It will comprise the material, shop-fittings, goodwill, and the lease, the whole at the upset price of 500*f.* (20*l.*) The purchaser, in addition to the purchase-money, will have to undertake to take over the stock existing in the pharmacy at the price fixed by an inventory made by an expert. All information may be obtained from the Official Receiver.”

PROSECUTION OF A CUTTING PHARMACY.—The Pharmacien's Disciplinary Chamber has just prosecuted the owners of a cutting pharmacy, occupying large corner premises opposite the Gare St. Lazare, Paris. The business is advertised under the name of the Société des Grandes Pharmacies de France, with branches at Versailles and various provincial towns; also a factory at Levallois. The name of M. Leluc, pharmacien de première classe, has appeared on the shop-front until recently, though it transpired at the hearing of the case that he had merely lent his name, the real owners being A. Poirson & Co. M. Poirson is a pharmacien de deuxième classe, and is consequently not qualified to practise pharmacy outside the department (Aisne), in which he obtained his diploma. He had to answer two charges—(1) of carrying on business in Leluc's name, and (2) of manufacturing at Levallois, near Paris. Leluc also appeared as a defendant. The result of the prosecution was that MM. Poirson and Leluc were fined 500*f.* (20*l.*), as well as 10,000*f.* (40*l.*) damages to the Société de Prévoyance des Pharmacien de la Seine. The pharmacy was ordered to be closed under a penalty of 100*f.* (4*l.*) per day, and the judgment is to be inserted in five Parisian and five provincial papers. The defendants intend to carry the case to the Court of Appeal, and meanwhile the shop remains open. The cutting pharmacy in question appears to do a large trade, and is kept open from 7 A.M. to 1 P.M. The assistants are said to be all fully-qualified men, but a woman has charge of the speciality counter. The cashier does his part of the business with the aid of a big American cash register, and the shop door is in charge of a small page boy.

#### A FRENCH ANTI-CUTTING MEETING.

THE General Association of French Pharmacists will hold their annual meeting at Rouen on July 11. The principal question down on the notice paper for discussion is the suppression or regulation by law of the sale of specialities, with a view to doing away with the present suicidal system of cutting prices. The Syndicate of Pharmacists of Paris and the Seine, like other departments, will be represented at this meeting by delegates; and the importance of the matter at issue induced M. Riète (President of the Parisian Syndicate) to convene a special meeting on Monday afternoon last, at which a representative of the C. & D. was present. The handsome Salle des Actes at the Paris School of Pharmacy was completely filled when M. Riète took the chair at 2.15 P.M., and many well-known pharmacists were present. After alluding to the prosecution of MM. Poirson and Leluc, the President said he was glad to see, after sundry dismal prophecies, that nearly 150, out of 500, members had found time to attend—a very respectable average. He briefly sketched the present state of affairs; their overtures to the Syndicate of Manufacturers of Pharmaceutical Specialities had been received “favourably, but without enthusiasm,” and had been followed by a wet blanket, or rather a complete shower-bath, in the shape of Professor Renault's opinion; but the Syndicate had asked another authority—M. Bérolaud—for his opinion. The document, which was of formidable length, was read in full. The distinguished lawyer's opinion is that article No. 419 of the Penal Code may, like most Acts of Parliament, be skilfully turned. M. Riète said the Council was not a partisan of the complete suppression of specialities, which he referred to as an act “both revolutionary and reactionary.” Though modern specialities, resting on capital, and, very often, on lavish advertisement as their principal basis, may be open to much criticism, conciliation and concord between specialists and pharmacists, he said, should be their aim. Most pharmacists make up some one or more specialities themselves; they must beware how they fetter a profession already regulated by antediluvian laws; and with the increasing tendency to reduce therapeutics to simple hygienic measures, and the ever-growing serums, the suppression of specialities would perhaps one day deprive the *officine* of its last resource. M. Gérard, President of the Syndicate of Pharmaceutical Products, promised that when the pharmacists had found a practical solution of the question they might be sure the manufacturers would join with them. His syndicate would discuss M. Bérolaud's paper at their next meeting. M. Catillon said the pharmacists were asking much and offering little. Let them promise, if the specialists joined

them, not to substitute their own preparations when specialities were asked for or prescribed. The uproar of indignation raised by M. Catillon's suggestion having subsided, M. Rèthe remarked that if pharmacists had their legitimate profit on specialities they would cease to be lukewarm as to their sale. M. Michel spoke to the same effect. They would even say to purchasers, "It will do you a world of good." (Laughter.) But he would have them put on their bottles the composition of their medicines, and leave pharmacists free to offer their own preparations when the others failed. "Liberty for all" was his motto. (Some applause.) M. Crinon said this danger of imitation might be exaggerated. Such articles had to be sold extremely cheap to compete with well-known specialities—(cries of "Quite true")—and it really paid better to sell the latter at marked prices. The specialists thought the big cutting pharmacies were their allies. Let them undeceive themselves; these firms made their own specialities, and pushed and advertised them as the individual pharmacist could not afford to do. (Hear, hear.) On the other hand, the specialists did not, and could not, expect pharmacists to act against their own interests. M. Michel's theory of "Liberty" must be carried out. M. Petit (President of the General Association of French Pharmacists) warned the Syndicale that at Rouen the total suppression of specialities would be proposed, and perhaps carried, as at the Marseilles Congress last year. Provincial pharmacy was dead against specialities. He would deplore such a vote; it would pit Paris against the provinces, and practically dislocate the Association. It was for the Parisians to avert this disaster. At Rouen they must preach unity, concord, and peaceful methods. The new pharmacy law was not yet voted; its enemies were many, and pharmacists must stand shoulder to shoulder at all costs till it was carried. M. Flèvet urged the importance of coming to an understanding with the Specialities' Syndicate before going to Rouen. Their provincial brethren were impatient, but was it not natural? The cutting of the specialities meant a loss of 50/- or 100/- a year to many a pharmacist, and ruin stared them in the face. He did not wish to say a word against M. Renault, but it was most odd that in the large encyclopædia under the heading "Accaparement" his opinion appeared almost word for word. This statement caused some amusement as M. Flèvet cited the chapter and page of the work. The discussion then became desultory, relieved by some amusing repartees. M. Catillon stood to his guns and pleaded for his cherished idea, once more evoking a storm of protest. M. Rèthe thought such details could be left for later on. "Revenons à nos moutons," said M. Michel. "There is the Vin de l'Etoile, for instance." (Cries of "He's always advertising it.") "Never mind, you'll sell it yourselves one day," replied the speaker. M. Crinon: "We never have a meeting without this gratuitous advertisement." M. Michel: "When one works for the whole body, one has a right to a little advertisement." M. Rèthe (good naturedly): "Certainly; didn't I say, M. Michel, that your 'Wine of the Star' was the 'Star of Wines'?" (Laughter.) M. Crinon was by no means sure the famous wine would not one day find itself under the scope of article 419. But it was 4 P.M., and the meeting had had enough of discussion; cries of "the vote" drowned all further speeches. The opposition of the Paris pharmacists to the suppression of specialities was voted with but two dissentients; their desire to see the commerce regulated was carried *nem con*; and a dozen delegates were elected to bear this mandate to the Rouen gathering.

## Foreign and Colonial News.

**FLORIDA CAMPHOR**—The Florida camphor-forest is looking up. We mentioned some time ago that many camphor trees had been planted there. Now it is reported that a small quantity of an excellent quality of camphor has already been made, and a sample lot has been sent to Washington for analysis. Experiments will be undertaken to ascertain which produces the more camphor, the trunk or leaves of the tree.

**MUD BATHS IN SOUTHERN RUSSIA**—The mud from Chokrak Lake and the small volcanoes (Sopki) at Bil-

ganak, in Southern Russia, has lately been found of great value for the cure of rheumatism. Mud-bathing establishments have therefore been opened at Kertch and Chokrak. That at the last-named place is to be much enlarged and improved, but the surroundings are so desolate and unattractive that patients are not likely to be numerous.

**DRUG IMPORTS INTO BRITISH INDIA**.—The total value of the imports of chemicals, drugs, medicines, narcotic, dyes, and tanning substances in British India in 1895 was 4,123,261r.—an enormous increase upon the figures for 1891, which were only 2,544,183r. The following figures show the proportion of the imports from various countries:—United Kingdom 3,614,197r., Germany 215,694r., Italy 84,273r., Belgium 71,874r., Austria-Hungary 33,617r., France 16,320r., Holland 2,351r.

**BUSINESS AT BULUWAYO**.—The English chemist at Buluwayo, from whose letter to Messrs. Bourne, Johnson & Latimer we quoted an extract last week, has sent a second communication to that firm, in which he shows himself quite as despondent as in the first. "The *in*derpest," he says, "has swept the country almost clear of transport-cattle, and carriers have just pitched thousands of pounds' worth of goods upon the veld. I expect the goods you sent me are somewhere there, rotting in the sun, and possibly I shall never see them. There is no prospect of an improvement in the transport arrangements. The cattle-disease appears to be spreading over the whole of South Africa, and foodstuffs are coming in by mule-waggon, at a cost of nearly 120s. per cwt." The writer of the letter was formerly a pharmacist in the Transvaal, and he now bitterly regrets having left that country.

**INDIAN INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY**.—There are eighteen cutch-factories in British India—seventeen in Burmah and one in Bengal. They employ together about 800 hands, and turn out 25,000 tons of cutch a year. A small glass-works, equipped on the European system, was established near Calcutta in 1891. Besides this there are many small native factories all over the country, but, unless they can obtain broken imported glass to work with, they turn out a wretched article. The soda-water factories in India number 350, but there are only six large oil-mills—at Calcutta, Bombay, and Worora (C.P.). In the provinces of Bengal and Madras there are some 1,500 native saltpetre-refineries, mostly small, and all working part of the year only. The products of the two large soap-factories at Meerut (N.W.P.) are becoming increasingly popular. One of them turned out about 150,000rs. worth of household and toilet soap last year.

**A CYCONE'S EFFECTS ON PHARMACY**.—We referred last week to the unhappy nine druggists of St. Louis who have been ruined by last month's cyclone. There are ninety more who were not ruined, and this is how the *American Druggist's* correspondent describes in collective fashion the results upon them:—"Scarce had the fury of the storm abated when prescriptions came pouring in, and the druggist and his clerks were besieged by injured and frightened victims of the tornado. People rushed to the familiar corner drug store to ask questions and telephone in regard to some friend or relative, but the pharmacist was too busy with prescriptions for the injured to answer questions, and all telephone connection was shut off. It was a common thing to see the pharmacist searching among the *débris* for his stock of bandages and lint, or over hauling the pile of broken bottles for ingredients wanted in a prescription. Situated as he was, hearing the sad tales of injuries and death from so many, he soon began to feel that he was among the lucky instead of unfortunate ones. At nearly every stand in the storm-stricken district trade has been brisk ever since May 27, and it goes a long way to heal up the sore spot afflicting so many."—Since writing the foregoing we have received from Messrs. Meyer Brothers, of St. Louis, and Dr. James, of the *National Druggist*, views of the disaster, which indicate its terrible destructiveness.

**HAD HIM THAT TIME!**—Customer: "I suppose this ground coffee is half peas?" Dealer: "No, the coffee is not, but the pepper is." Customer: "Eh? The pepper is?" Dealer: "Of course. Look in the dictionary."

## Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

THE annual meeting of members and associates of the Pharmaceutical Society in Scotland was held on June 19, at 36 York Place, Edinburgh. Mr. James L. Ewing (Chairman of the Executive of the North British Branch) presided. There was a very small attendance.

The CHAIRMAN, in his opening remarks, said it was gratifying to observe that the steady increase in the strength of the Society in Scotland continued. This year showed an increase of seventeen over last year, and during the past five years there had been an increase of seventy-six. There was nothing in these figures to boast about. It was of the utmost importance, in the interests of the pharmaceutical craft, that every graduate in pharmacy should be a supporter of the Society which had been invested with legislative and executive power for the promotion and protection of those interests which came within the sphere of their charter. That day had not yet come; but they were moving, perhaps, too slowly towards it. They had now in Scotland 96 pharmaceutical chemists, 52 chemist and druggist members, and 252 associates in business connected with the Society. This year's increase was largely the result of an effort made in Dundee by the local Secretary there. The Benevolent Fund returns, too, showed that the local Secretary at Airdrie had secured a number of new subscribers in his district. The example of these officers showed what could be done by a little local effort. He referred to the retirement of Mr. Gibson and Mr. Nesbit from the Executive. They heartily thanked both gentlemen for the work they had so cheerfully done, and hoped they might have their help and counsel again at some future time. In the past year there had been a notable increase in the number of candidates presenting themselves for examination in Edinburgh. It would have been impossible to overtake the work in a reasonable time in the old premises, but the new premises had been found admirably adapted for examination-purposes. The large percentage of failures in these examinations was an unsatisfactory feature. It was due for the most part to the want of thorough systematic training, especially in practical work. Since last meeting, two gentlemen, who had done excellent work as members of the Board, had retired—for a time, at least—namely, Messrs. Dott and Maben. There had been some delay in going on with the rearrangement of the Society's premises set free from examination work. This delay was chiefly due to negotiations, which had now proceeded so far that he might without breach of confidence refer to them. The Executive was approached some time ago by the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, who generously proposed that their *materia medica* museum should be transferred to the custody of the Pharmaceutical Society for preservation in the Society's house here. They had been in consultation with the authorities in London, and the transaction was now virtually completed, though it might be next year or near it before the actual transfer could be effected. In this connection also it might be mentioned that they were at present considering a plan, by which it might be possible to acquire an interesting collection of *materia medica*, made partly by Sir Douglas MacLagan, and by Dr. Scoresby Jackson and Dr. T. A. G. Balfour, all well-known Scottish pharmacologists. When these additions had been made their museum of *materia medica* would be one of the most interesting and extensive collections in Scotland. During the year two interesting additions to their collection of paintings had been made. By the kindness of Dr. John Duncan they had secured a portrait of his grandfather, Mr. John Duncan, the first President of the North British Branch; and quite recently a portrait of Baillie J. F. Macfarlan had been presented by his daughter. Mr. Macfarlan was the first member of the Council of the Society from Scotland. The Chairman next commented on the legal cases which had been tried in Scotland, especially on the actions which had been raised to test the right of using the title of chemist

with a qualifying adjective. In regard to these cases, they all rejoiced that after a keen and persistent fight they came out of the conflict victorious, and after some grumbling all parties seemed now to have accepted the decision. There was one feature of these cases in Scotland that they could not regard as satisfactory. He referred to the great difficulty in recovering reasonable penalties and such decisions as should really effect the manifest purpose of the law. But the Society, as had been said, had really had to educate the judges, and the evil was one which might be expected to grow less in course of time. These proceedings entailed a heavy expenditure, and all who participated in the benefit should in justice bear a helping hand. The Chairman also alluded with gratification to the election of Professor Balfour as an honorary member of the Society, and to the handsome way in which the electors had returned their two Scottish members again to the Council. They would have observed from the report of the last Council meeting that the man who had for many years been head and shoulders above all his fellows, and who had excelled all his predecessors in the amount of time and energy which he had so ungrudgingly devoted to the work of the Society, was no longer President. When Mr. Carteighe first came to Scotland he was regarded with something like suspicion, and for a time there was something like misunderstanding and antagonism. But as time passed and opportunities for personal intercourse were multiplied all such ideas vanished. His sincerity and unexampled ability won their admiration, and now he felt sure Mr. Carteighe had no warmer friends anywhere than in Scotland. In Mr. Walter Hills, the new President, they had a man who not only worthily represented an historic house, but one whose experience and personal qualities admirably fitted him for the high office to which he had been appointed.

#### ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE.

Mr. J. R. HILL read the scrutineers' report of the voting for the Executive of the branch. Fifty-eight members and associates had been nominated; of these, twenty-two signified their willingness to act if elected. Out of 400 voting-papers issued, 198 were returned, one of which was informal. The result was as follows:—

Wm. Little Currie, 223 Byres Road, Dowanhill, Glasgow	..	172
Jas. Laidlaw Ewing, 9 Princes Street, Edinburgh	..	168
Chas. Kerr, 56 Nethergate, Dundee ..	..	163
Alex. Davidson, 172 High Street, Montrose ..	..	165
Alex. Strachan, 138 Rosemount Place, Aberdeen ..	..	164
Claude Francis Henry, 1 Brandon Terrace, Edinburgh ..	..	160
Wm. Ramsay Kermath, 1 North Bell Street, St. Andrews ..	..	
Jas. Miller Hardie, 68 High Street, Dundee ..	..	156
George Lunan, 20 Queensferry Street, Edinburgh ..	..	148
John Bowman, 2 Duke Street, Leith ..	..	145
John Hutchison Fisher, 66 High Street, Dunfermline ..	..	144
Jas. Paterson, 15 Regent Quay, Aberdeen ..	..	136
George Coull, 17 Smith's Place, Leith Walk, Edinburgh ..	..	131
Robt. McAdam, 34 Virginia Street, Glasgow ..	..	130
Jas. Moir, 447 Victoria Road, Crosshill, Glasgow ..	..	130
Donald Mitchell, 30 Union Street, Inverness ..	..	123
David McLaren, 42 South Clerk Street, Edinburgh ..	..	

The above form the Executive. Messrs. Mitchell and McLaren are the new members. The following were the unsuccessful candidates:—

Arthur McKellar, 69 South Portland Street, Glasgow ..	..	78
Thos. Dunlop, 181 Albert Road, Pollokshields, Glasgow ..	..	73
Robt. Aitken, 73 Princes Street, Edinburgh ..	..	70
Jas. Mackenzie, 45 Forrest Road, Edinburgh ..	..	70
Colin Allen Macpherson, 97 Dalry Road, Edinburgh ..	..	44

Mr. JOHN NESBIT, in moving the adoption of the scrutineers' report, said if members took a little more interest in the election it would spur the Executive.

Mr. W. B. KERMATH seconded the motion, and expressed his disappointment that so few members attended the meetings.

The report was adopted, and the Chairman declared the first seventeen gentlemen on the list—together with the President of the society, Mr. Walter Hills, the Vice-President, Mr. John Harrison, Messrs. John Johnston, Aberdeen, and David Storrar, Kirkcaldy, ex-officio members—to be the Executive for 1896-97.

Mr. W. L. CURRIE, Glasgow, said he wished to call atten-

tion to one little matter which had been mentioned by the Chairman—that was the very high position which the Scotch candidates occupied at the recent election of the Council. He was present at the election, and he was very much disappointed at seeing so many papers returned to London with every name scored out with the exception of their two Scotch candidates. It was a matter of comment amongst the members that a hundred papers from Scotland came back to London with all the names scored out except the two Scotch candidates. Sometimes there would be one vote for Mr. Carteighe or some other gentleman, but, with very few exceptions, there were not more than four or five names. It was pointed out to him that this might have an adverse influence on future elections, and he was instructed by the chairman of the scrutineers to ask the Scotch members to remember that more members of Council were required than two, and that the two Scotch members could not constitute the London Council. If Englishmen got to know that English candidates were scored out year after year they would retaliate and score out the Scotchmen.

Mr. KERMATH questioned whether the scrutineers were in order in sending a message like that. As a matter of honour, and as a matter of statutory enactment, he thought they should not tell what they saw. He did not know whether they were actually sworn in, but surely they should understand that it was a private transaction in which they were taking part. If their English friends got to know that the Scotch papers had that appearance it would be the scrutineers who were to blame.

Mr. JOHN NESBIT said there might have been something in Mr. Kermath's remarks if names had been mentioned, but when it was put generally, as it had been, he did not think there was any breach of faith. He hoped Mr. Currie's remarks would have a good effect.

Mr. C. F. HENRY and Mr. BURLEY supported Mr. Kermath, and the CHAIRMAN said he did not wish to take part in this discussion. It was, perhaps, unfortunate that this subject had been raised just now. He asked if the chairman of the scrutineers was quite sure that all the plumpers were Scotch voters. He happened to know that the convenor of the committee for the election of Scotch candidates received a communication from an English voter stating that he intended to vote only for the two Scotch representatives. He felt sure that if any number of Scotch electors had voted in the way alleged, it must have been from mere inadvertence. He was sure they had no desire to behave unfairly to the English members of Council.

The Executive then met in private.

### Chemists take a Holiday.

THE Chemical Society finished its fifty-fifth session on Thursday of last week, under exceptionally interesting circumstances. First, there was an election of Fellows, and about that there was a bit of a wrangle; second, M. Henri Moissan came in with Professor William Ramsay, shortly after the proceedings commenced, and he had a warm welcome (he had been lecturing at the Royal Society in the afternoon on "Metallic Carbides"); third, there were eighteen papers on the programme, and only seven of these could be dealt with.

#### WHEN THE BALLOT WAS REACHED,

Mr. C. E. Cassal asked if the certificates of certain candidates, whom he named, and who are medical men, would be read. Thereupon Dr. Hugh Woods objected to the invidious naming of candidates in that way. He particularly referred to the high qualifications of Mr. S. W. Allworthy, M.A., one of those whom Mr. Cassal named, and who, he said, was in every way a fit person to be elected a Fellow. Mr. Cassal asked Dr. Woods if Mr. Allworthy had not already been blackballed. Dr. Woods said "Yes"; but he could not understand why some members of the Society had such a hatred of medical men. There had been the same opposition to him when he was a candidate, why, he could not conceive, for he held the highest chemical qualification that could be got—viz., the Senior Moderatorship in Experimental

Science at the Dublin University. After the laugh had subsided, Mr. Cassal replied that he had no personal objection to Mr. Allworthy; he simply asked that certain certificates should be read, so that the Fellows might judge for themselves whether the candidates should be elected or not. The President seemed doubtful as to adopting the course suggested by Mr. Cassal. Professor Thomson (senior Secretary) mentioned that Dr. Armstrong had made a ruling on the point, and this Professor Dunstan corroborated, and obtained the minute-book, from which he read the ruling that, with the publication of certificates in the "Proceedings," it was necessary to read the names only of the candidates. Mr. MacEwan pointed out that earlier in the session the certificates of certain candidates had been read on the resolution of the meeting, and he thought that was a precedent which could be acted upon in the same manner. Mr. Cassal corroborating, the President decided to put the matter to the vote, when only two supported Mr. Cassal, and nineteen or twenty held up their hands against the motion, which was therefore lost. Mr. Cassal and Mr. Jowett were appointed scrutators, and later in the evening their report was submitted, which showed that three medical men were blackballed. Amongst the persons elected were Mr. J. A. Hughes, pharmaceutical chemist, Abercarn, and Mr. J. B. Knight, analyst, Messrs. Howards & Sons, Stratford.

#### THE PAPERS.

Professor W. A. Tilden had the first place with a paper on "The Action of Bromine on Pinene in reference to the Question of its Constitution." Long ago the author showed that pinene forms a tetrabromide, and a Russian chemist confirmed him; but Wallach says that the pinene molecule will not take up more than two atoms of bromine. The author and one of his students have gone into the subject again, and they show in the present communication that the molecule does take up  $Br_2$ , but in certain circumstances if  $Br_2$  is fixed on it no more bromine is absorbed. Wallach has been misled by these circumstances. Professor Tilden indulged in some homiletics about allowing a new fact to overwhelm several old-established ones, pointing out that under Wallach's view the constitution of pinene and all depending upon it, such as cymene, leading up to camphor, would have to be altered. As it is he submitted that pinene should have a double link, and he brought forward the following formula as an expression of his ideas:—



also formulae of camphene, &c., based upon this rendering. He added a note regarding a nor-ketonic acid,  $C_{10}H_{16}O_3$ , obtained from pinene, which forms a crystallisable sodium salt, and is, probably, knobic acid. The President, Mr. Chapman, and Professor Dunstan had each a few sentences to utter on the paper.

Mr. G. S. Newth exhibited and described an apparatus for showing experiments with ozone. When ozone is produced by passing electric sparks through a tube so arranged that the reagent (turpentine or  $KI$ ) for absorption of the ozone may be introduced without opening the apparatus, there is disturbance of the manometer at the side of the apparatus, so that the observation is vitiated. Mr. Newth obviates this by enclosing the reagent in a sealed tube, which by an ingenious arrangement of pimples in the interior of the air-tube is fractured at the moment desired. From a demonstration with the electric lantern it was seen that the manometer is not disturbed. This paper was taken out of its turn to show M. Moissan the really exquisite glass-blowing which Mr. Newth is master of, but, unfortunately, the demonstration broke down at a critical point.

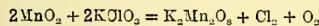
Next came Mr. A. C. Chapman with a note on "Santalal and Some of its Derivatives," by himself and Mr. H. E. Burgess. Chapoteaut says that sandalwood oil consists chiefly of an alcohol, santalol,  $C_{15}H_{26}O$ , and its corresponding aldehyde santalal,  $C_{15}H_{24}O$ . The authors have isolated the latter, and confirm the observation that it is an aldehyde. It yields on dehydration a hydrocarbon,  $C_{15}H_{22}$ , closely resembling cedrene, obtained from oil

of cedarwood, in odour and some other respects, but differing in regard to optical activity. The factors are:—

—	Santalal Hydrocarbon	Cedrene
Boiling-point ..	140°-145° C.	143°-147° C.
Sp. gr. $\frac{15}{16}$ .. ..	0.9359	0.9359
Sp. rot. .. ..	+ 5° 40'	- 60°

Santalal yields, on oxidation with potassium permanganate, a crystalline acid melting at 76° C., and having the composition  $C_{15}H_{24}O_{22}$ . It forms a crystallised strontium salt, and the study of that may bring another communication. Judging from a remark by the President, the derivatives referred to are perfumes of the sweetest odour.

Professor Herbert McLeod, the pharmaceutical examiner, took the other side of the platform while he described his "Further Observations on the Production of Chlorine in Chlorine by Heating a Mixture of Manganese Oxygen Dioxide and Potassium Chlorate." Oxygen made in that way smells of chlorine and liberates iodine (see *C. & D.*, *xliv.*, p. 208). The author says that is due to this initial reaction:—



Brunck says no chlorine is liberated, but ozone is formed, and McLeod's chlorine reaction is due to chloride carried over mechanically. The present communication proved that the above reaction does take place, although Brunck is right in saying that chloride is carried over, but that was allowed for in the investigation.

Mr. W. J. Pope submitted the most interesting communication of the evening. It was on "The Thermo-chemical

Peculiarities of Chloral and Bromal Hydrates." A Pretty Experiment. When the heat of decomposition of chloral hydrate is determined from a freshly-fused mass of the substance it is found to be different from that of the mass after standing a day or two. Why is this? It is not due to difference in chemical composition, but Mr. Pope demonstrated by throwing photographs of chloral hydrate on the wall that it is because the hydrate is dimorphous. If one fuses a bit of the hypnotic on a microscope-slide and looks at it through a microscope with polarimetric attachment, it is seen that it crystallises in needles. But in a few hours rhombic crystals are seen to begin to form, and in a few days the whole mass is converted into rhomboids. Bromal hydrate behaves similarly. So they are dimorphous like sulphur, and that accounts for their thermo-chemical peculiarities. Menthol is also dimorphous, but many people deny this. Mr. Pope showed that the denial is excusable, because the change from the beautiful needle stars to rhomboids occurs while one is looking at it under the microscope, so no one catches the hydrocarbon in the two conditions separately. Thymol is not dimorphous, for it always retains the needle shape. These are pretty experiments which any tyro in chemistry may carry out with care, and he will learn much about dimorphism from them.

Some time ago, in commenting upon the explosiveness of acetylene, we suggested that Professor Clowes might determine the limits of its explosiveness in the same way as he has done with other gases. He responded at this meeting by stating that it is more explosive than hydrogen. Three per cent. of acetylene in air is an explosive mixture, and this characteristic continues until the maximum—82 per cent.—is reached. As the limits of explosion are a measure of the danger, acetylene is slightly more dangerous than hydrogen. Professor Clowes showed that his hydrogen-flame apparatus accurately measures the proportion of acetylene in air. The President seemed sceptical on the latter point, and said so.

As it was approaching 10 o'clock, the rest of the papers were

#### TAKEN AS READ.

"The Rotation of Aspartic Acid." By B. M. C. Marshall.

"On the Occurrence of Quercetin in the Outer Skins of the Bulb of the Onion (*Allium sepa*)." By A. G. Perkin and J. J. Hummel.

"On the Colouring-matter contained in the Bark of the *Myrica nagi*." By A. G. Perkin and J. J. Hummel.

"Note on some New Derivatives from Camphoroxime." By Dr. M. O. Forster.

"Synthesis of Pentacarbon-rings" (Part III). "Condensation of Benzyl with Levalic Acid." By Professor Japp, F.R.S., and J. S. Murray, D.Sc. "Absorption of Dilute Acids by Silk." By Professor Walker, D.Sc., and J. R. Appleyard.

"Position Isomerism and Optical Activity. The Methylic and Ethylic Salts of Ortho-, Meta-, and Para-ditolyl Tartaric Acid." By Professor P. Frankland, F.R.S., and F. M. Wharton.

"Double Sulphides of Gold and other Metals; the Action of Sulphur at a Red Heat on Gold when Alloyed with other Metals." By J. S. MacLaurin, B.Sc.

"The Relative Weights of Gold and Silver Dissolved by Potassium-cyanide Solutions from Alloys of these Metals." By J. S. MacLaurin, B.Sc.

"The Three Chlorobenzeneazosalicylic Acids." By J. T. Hewitt, M.A., D.Sc., and H. E. Stevenson.

"Condensation of Chloral with Resorcinol." By J. T. Hewitt, M.A., D.Sc., and G. F. Pope.

Unless anything unforeseen happens, we shall have nothing more to say about the Chemical Society's meetings during the next five months.

## Trade Notes.

MESSRS. C. J. HEWLETT & SON, Charlotte Street, E.C., will close their warehouses on June 29 and 30 for stock-taking.

DURING the summer months the works, warehouse, and offices of Messrs. Blondeau & Co., at Kentish Town, will be closed on Saturdays at 1 o'clock.

MESSRS. WILLIAM EDWARDS & SON, of 157 Queen Victoria Street, E.C., announce that they will close their warehouse on Tuesday next, June 30, for stock-taking.

THE Edme Company (the English Diastatic Malt Extract Company) are enlarging their works at Mistley in order to keep up with the demand for their "Edme" brand malt extract.

MR. J. E. GARRATT, the British representative of "Frog in your Throat," announces, on a humorous card, that the Frog has outgrown his premises at 10 Silver Street, Holborn, and that he has therefore jumped to larger and more convenient premises at 120½ Southwark Street, S.E.

WE notice that Boffitt's (Limited), 83 Upper Thames Street, E.C., whose price list of bottles is one of the features of our DIARY, intimate reductions in the prices of "La Spécialité Feeders," which should be noted in the DIARY list if they cannot be taken advantage of at present.

WE have been shown a proof copy of Messrs. May, Roberts & Co.'s new half-yearly "Illustrated List of Prices," which will be ready for distribution in a few days. We may have something more to say of it later on, but meanwhile we may state that externally it is brighter than before, and this brightness has been "carried over" to the inside in the form of numerous reductions in prices. Those who wish to have a copy of the catalogue promptly should address a card to 9 Clerkenwell Road, E.C.

SUPPOSED ROBBERY AT A LONDON CHEMIST'S POST OFFICE—MR. William H. Jones, chemist and druggist, 406 Caledonian Road, King's Cross, also keeps a sub-post-office at that address. On Tuesday last he reported to the General Post Office the particulars of a daring robbery which, as he believed, had been recently effected on his premises. The amount in cash stated to have been stolen is £130, whilst all the stamps on the premises, valued at £25, were at the same time removed. According to Mr. Jones's statement, a fashionably-attired young lady of prepossessing appearance entered the shop, and, walking to the postal department, purchased a few stamps, and turned ostensibly to quit the premises. Mr. Jones returned to his parlour at the rear of the shop, thinking that his customer had left the shop. He now supposes, however, that the lady, after making the shop-door bell tinkle, quietly glided behind the counter, and cleared the drawers of stamp and cash. The discovery that his premises had been robbed was not made until Mr. Jones was called upon to serve another customer, when he found his till empty. The police were forthwith summoned, but it was then impossible to even make an attempt to capture the fair robber.

## Legal Reports.

### THE YORKSHIRE RELISH CASE.

IN the Court of Appeal on June 24, before Lords Justices Lindley, Lopes, and Rigby, counsel in the case of *Powell v. The Birmingham Vinegar Brewery Company* applied on behalf of the defendants that, pending his clients' appeal to the House of Lords, all proceedings in chambers in respect of the account of profits made by them by the sale of any sauce or relish by the name of "Yorkshire Relish" not manufactured by the plaintiffs might be stayed. Mr. Cutlet, who appeared on the other side, said an affidavit had that morning been filed by his friend's clients, one paragraph of which he desired an opportunity of denying. After some further discussion it was arranged that the motion should stand over for a week.

### ACTIONS UNDER THE PHARMACY ACT.

#### AN ASSISTANT FINED.

JOHN SINCLAIR is not a chemist and druggist, but he acted as an assistant at 85 Clifton Road, New Cross, S.E., and there, on March 4, sold to a Pharmaceutical Society purchaser 2d. worth of laudanum, and the same of soapliniment. He appeared before Judge Bristowe, at the Greenwich County Court on June 12, in answer to the Society's summons. John Partridge proved the purchase, and Mr. E. J. Eastes, F.I.C., proved that it was a preparation of laudanum. Sinclair defended himself, pleading that he was not the seller, and that he did not sell apart from the supervision of his master; which argument was upset by the Wheeldon case, and there was judgment for the plaintiffs for 5*l.*, with costs.

### 10*l.* FINE, AND COSTS OVER 200*l.*

AT the Blackpool County Court, before Judge Coventry, on Wednesday, June 17, Thomas S. Brade, manager for Gaulter & Co. (Limited), of Fleetwood, was sued by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, represented by Mr. Vaughan Williams, barrister, of London, instructed by Messrs. Flux, Williams & Flux, London, for two penalties in respect to sales of Winslow's soothing-syrup, he not being a qualified man.

Mr. Williams stated that the defendant was employed by a small company—he might say, a one-woman company, for Mrs. Gaulter was the principal shareholder, holding 283 1*l.* shares out 300*l.*\* He was in charge of the shop, but he was not a qualified man. On January 18 and February 1 a bottle of Winslow's syrup, which contains morphine, was purchased from the defendant. These proceedings were instituted by the Society to prevent the sale of poisons by unqualified persons. The penalty was 5*l.* for each offence.

Arthur Foulds, inquiry agent, of London, proved purchasing the bottles of syrup from the defendant, and giving them to Mr. Harry Moon, who corroborated.

Mr. E. J. Eastes deposed to analysing the contents of the bottles, which he found contained  $\frac{1}{16}$  and  $\frac{1}{11}$  gr. of morphine. The quantity he found would be dangerous to a child.

His Honour asked if this was a case for his court?

Mr. Williams: Yes.

His Honour: Is it necessary to prove quantity?

Mr. Williams: No, I think not; any appreciable quantity is sufficient.

His Honour: Have I no option but to inflict the full penalty?

Mr. Williams said the Act of Parliament stated that the full penalty should be inflicted.

His Honour thereupon gave a verdict for the plaintiff for 10*l.* with costs, the latter amounting to over 200*l.*

\* Extract from THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY "Directory of Pharmacy Companies":—

Gaulter & Co. (Ltd.)—Regd. July 30, 1892. Cap. 300*l.*, in 17. shares. Chemists and druggists. Reg. Off., 6 West Street, Fleetwood, Lancashire. Return made up to December 14; filed December 19, 1894. All shares taken up, and 300*l.* paid. Seven shareholders. Managing director, Charles H. Gaulter, chemist, of 40 Market Street, Blackpool. Hannah Gaulter, of 136 Albert Road, Blackpool, holds 282 shares.

### SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

#### SALICYLIC ACID IN IPECACUHANA WINE.

AT Wolverhampton Police Court, on June 19, Ernest Edward Hall, pharmaceutical chemist, Newbridge, was summoned at the instance of Mr. Allwood, inspector, for selling 8 oz. of ipecacuanha wine, which Mr. Jones, the public analyst, certified was adulterated with 0.27 gr. of salicylic acid per oz., equal to 43 gr. per gallon. The sample should have contained 17 per cent. of alcohol, but only contained 14.5.

Mr. R. A. Willcock, who appeared for the defendant, said his client invited the fullest investigation. His defence was that the wine was obtained from a respectable wholesale house—Messrs. Wyleys (Limited), of Coventry—who, both on their labels and the invoices, guaranteed the wine supplied by them as being prepared in accordance with the requirements of the British Pharmacopoeia. Mr. Hall sold it in the same state he received it. Immediately on receiving the summons his client communicated with Messrs. Wyleys, and they replied in the following letter:—

Dear Sir,—We very much regret to hear you have to appear at the Police Court over our vinum ipecacuanha. The vinum ipecacuanha is made strictly P.B. (*i.e.*, according to the British Pharmacopoeia). But we have had so much trouble in years past in growths and deposits in the wines on keeping that we had as a preservative a small quantity of salicylic acid, as you probably know in the case of orange wines (and, therefore, also in vinum quininae). This addition of the acid salicylic has been successfully defended by Dr. Paul, of the *Pharmaceutical Journal*. In your case we shall, of course, relieve you from all responsibility, and Mr. Jones, one of our directors, will call upon you on Monday about 3.30 P.M., unless we hear from you to the contrary, to confer with you upon this unfortunate occurrence.

(Signed) W. F. WYLEY, Director.

(For Wyleys, Limited).

Mr. Hall confirmed his solicitor's statement. He added that the bottles in which the wine was received were all labelled "P.B."

The Stipendiary expressed himself satisfied that defendant sold the wine under the belief that it was genuine, and the case would therefore be dismissed on payment of costs. He would, of course, get his expenses back from the firm who supplied the adulterated wine to him.

HENRY HUDSON, chemist, North Road, was summoned for an exactly similar offence. Mr. Willcock stated that the wine was purchased from the same wholesale firm as in the last case, and on his client communicating with them, they wrote requesting him to return all the wine he had in his possession, and they would replace it.

The Stipendiary said it was very unfortunate that the wholesale dealers should cause their customers so much trouble. This case also was dismissed on payment of costs.

### COUNTY COURT CASES.

#### UNRETURNED SYPHONS.

AT the Lambeth County Court, on Monday, Bouillon Fleet (Limited) sued Mr. Beall, lately trading as Messrs. Beall & Shackle, at Queen's Road, Peckham, for 9*l.* 8*s.*, the value of eleven dozen syphons and cases supplied by the plaintiffs from their mineral-water works at Warner Road, Camberwell. The plaintiffs' representative said they always charged for syphons which were not returned. The defendant said he agreed with the plaintiffs' traveller that there should be no charge for unreturned syphons. Judge Emden asked defendant how long he had been in business, and on being told about twenty years, his Honour said the defendant ought in that case to have known that he could not have syphons for nothing. There would be judgment for the plaintiffs for the amount claimed, with costs, to be reduced if the syphons were returned.

### EXECUTION OR COMMITTAL.

IN the City of London Court, on Tuesday, before Mr. Commissioner Kerr, Messrs. Reuben Hyams & Co., 19 Wormwood Street, E.C., sought to have Mr. William Fox, of Ethelburga House, Wormwood Street, E.C., committed for non-payment of 31*l.* 10*s.* due to them. The plaintiffs' representative said the defendant was an analyst. He seemed to

have pretty fair means. He did a large business with some railway companies and oil companies in analysing. He had many times promised to pay, but had not kept his word. Mr. Commissioner Kerr: Promises amount to nothing. Why have not you levied upon his goods? The plaintiffs' representative said they thought it best to take the step they had done. Mr. Commissioner Kerr: And I think it best that you should take a man's goods before you send him to prison. I will not imprison a man while there is another way of getting your money. You like the other way; but that was not the intention of the Legislature. You must take his goods. The case was struck out.

#### A DOCTOR'S DEBTS.

IN the case of *Alissopp v. McAusland*, heard in the City of London Court on Tuesday, the plaintiffs applied to enforce payment of 27 15s due from the defendant, Dr. A. McAusland, Chippenham Road, Harrow Road. It was said that the defendant had plenty of patients, and that his goods were covered by a bill of sale. Mr. Commissioner Kerr said everybody had a bill of sale, and ordered payment of 10s. per month.

#### THE INDECENT ADVERTISEMENTS ACT.

AT the Torquay Police Court on June 23, John Matthews, herbalist, of Plymouth, was summoned on a charge of posting offensive bills relating to the cure of certain diseases in the principal towns and districts of Devonshire. The proceedings were instituted by the District Council, for whom Mr. Grant Wollen appeared. Mr. Wollen after calling evidence admitted that he had no proof that defendant had actually authorised the posting of the bills, but as his name was on them he assumed that he permitted them to be posted. Mr. Carter for the defence submitted that there was no case. The Bench dismissed the summons, but cautioned Mr. Matthews as to the future.

IN reporting a mention of the case of the Liebig's Extract of Meat Company (Limited) *v. Chemists' Co-operative Society (Limited)* and the Liebig Medicated Wine Company (Limited) in our issue of June 13 we entitled the paragraph "The Title of Liebig's Extract Wine." The manager of the last-named company informs us that the question at issue is not a question of the title of Liebig's extract wine, and has nothing to do with wine. It is a question in regard to the general get up of certain articles sold by the defendants. We are advised from another source that the trial of the case is fixed to take place before Mr. Justice Kekewich on June 30.

#### Bankruptcy Reports.

*Re EDWARD FOSTER, Farngate, Preston, Chemist and Druggist.*

In this adjourned examination, which was taken at the Preston County Court on June 19, the debtor, in reply to the Official Receiver, said he had never kept any books of account. His business had been a cash trade. Questioned as to whether certain moneys had been borrowed, he said he did not know. He had had nothing to do with money matters for the last ten years. The Deputy Registrar: What a happy man! (A laugh.) The debtor said it was not true that a cartload of goods left his shop about midday on May 18. He knew nothing about it. He had a gold watch and chain, but could not say where they were now. He gave them to his son Edward. He believed in 1886. The watch was engraved in 1874, "Edward Foster." He had his son christened for the purpose. The Official Receiver: With special reference to the watch?—Yes, so that he could claim the watch. (Laughter.)

Do you mean to say that you had your son christened Edward with special reference to this watch that he might inherit it?—No, not that he might inherit the watch. I had the boys christened Edward and Ernest for the special purpose of continuing the business after I was gone. I was under the impression that what I had about my person I could give to anyone.

You know that I am going to claim it, don't you?—No, sir. Well, I am, and you had better tell him so. The Official Receiver said it was a fact that the debtor had never in all his life been fit to be trusted with money. All his troubles were brought upon him by other people. The debtor said that was so, and a professor of penology had said so. (Laughter.) The examination was further adjourned.

*Re F. J. Pütz & Co, 16 and 17 Great St Helens, E.C., Chemical and General Merchants.*

A RECEIVING ORDER was made, on Thursday, at the London Bankruptcy Court, against Helen Pütz (widow), trading as above, and residing at 8 Grove Road, Willesden Green. Messrs. Hollams & Co. presented the petition on the debtor's behalf. No particulars transpired.

#### Personalities.

MR. BRENT GOOD, of the Carter Medicine Company, who, with his family, has been spending some time in Europe, left London on Wednesday for his home.

MR. EDWARD SANDERS, formerly in the dispensary of the Brownlow Hill Workhouse, Liverpool, has been appointed dispenser at the Claybry Asylum, Woodford, Essex.

ON Friday last, June 19, at the Royal Forest Hotel, Chingford, Mr. Jas. Edward Johnson, F.I.C., F.C.S., of the English Diastatic Malt Extract Company (Limited), of Johnson & Hooper, Crown Works, Stratford, E., and of Tuson's Disinfectant Company (Limited), was installed W.M. of the Brooke Lodge, No. 2,005, in the presence of a numerous assemblage of Grand and Provincial Grand Officers. At the banquet which followed Bro. Hedges, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, thanked the Lodge for their assistance at the last festival in May, when, by the exertions of Bro. Johnson, the Lodge was credited with the largest list—viz., 315.

M. ANGELO MARIANI, of coca-wine fame, has been interviewed by a New York journalist, who found him to be a man of striking personality. His face and head are those of a Greek philosopher. His hair and beard are grey, almost white. His face is full of animation and expression. M. Mariani has for many years past been a prominent figure in Parisian life. He is famous far and wide for the number and brilliancy of his social entertainments. He is a liberal patron of literature and the arts, and has one of the finest private libraries and picture galleries in France. M. Mariani has large tracts of vineyard in Brignaudy, where, by means of the blending of certain varieties of vines, he produces the grape from which one of the finest brands of wine is obtained. He is one of the largest buyers in the world of Peruvian coca.

WE had an interesting chat the other day, regarding np-country pharmacy in Queensland, with Mr. R. B. G. Rose, formerly of Hughenden in that colony. Hughenden is in the centre of an extensive pastoral district, and Mr. Rose was the solitary chemist there for several years, until a doctor opened a shop for dispensing his own medicines and getting any trade that there was going. Although sheep farms are all around the town, there is little business done in sheep dips and other heavy articles of that kind, because such things are sent to the farms from central depots controlled by those who have a large amount of money to the farmers, and who, therefore, supply most of the materials used on the farms. The druggist's trade is much like what it is at home; dispensing is fairly good, and reasonable prices are obtained; but many farmers are fond of a few years' credit, and the retailer has to fall in with such notions. Customers appreciate good perfumes and toilet-preparations—indeed, their tastes in that direction are quite aesthetic. "Vinolia" soap, powder, and cream they are fond of, and amongst perfumes Piesse & Lubin's and Rogers & Gallois's are favourites in those secluded regions, especially the 5s. 6d. bottles. Mr. Rose sold out his pharmacy to Mr. T. Zeeu, and he is temporarily residing in London, but hopes to return to Australia at the end of the summer to resume business somewhere else.

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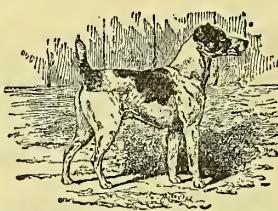


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## UNAUTHORISED PRESERVATIVES IN MEDICINES.

THE art of pharmacy consists in the preparation of drugs so as to fit them for administration, and not the least important part of the art is exhibited in fitting the medicines for preservation. To that end the British Pharmacopœia,

in common with others, has admitted alcohol, sugar, glycerine, and acetic acid as the chief preservatives for liquid medicines, and, except in a few cases, these appear to have met all requirements. But outside pharmacopœial preparations the use of preservative agents of the antiseptic class has become general, and salicylic acid especially has been found of great use in cases where alcohol, on account of its physiological action or high price, and glycerine, on account of its sweetness, are inadmissible. So far, however, official authority has not found it necessary to modify Pharmacopœia standards in order to admit these antiseptics, and thus it has happened that three chemists in the Midlands have been successfully proceeded against, under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, for selling ipecacuanha wine which contained about a quarter of a grain of salicylic acid per ounce. The section of the Act under which such convictions are possible is the fourth, which provides—

"No person shall, except for the purpose of compounding as hereinafter described, mix, colour, stain, or powder, or order or permit any other person to mix, colour, stain, or powder, any drug with any ingredient or material so as to affect injuriously the quality or potency of such drug, with intent that the same may be sold in that state, and no person shall sell any such drug so mixed, coloured, stained, or powdered," under certain penalties, &c.

The fifth section provides that conviction shall not follow if the person charged can satisfy the Court that he was unaware of the mixing, &c., and "could not with reasonable diligence have obtained that knowledge." Possibly the chemists proceeded against might have taken advantage of this provision, but we are glad they did not; for if there is any calling in which "reasonable diligence" should be exercised it is in pharmacy. The extenuation of the offence in the ipecacuanha-wine cases was that without salicylic acid the wine would not keep, and that the addition did not "affect injuriously the quality or potency" of the preparation. The latter part of the plea might have affected the case favourably for the defendants if the wine had contained "about 17 per cent. of alcohol," as the B.P. requires for sherry, but it was deficient in alcohol to the extent of 2 per cent. fully, and it is reasonable to conclude that the 0.27 gr. of salicylic acid took the place of the alcohol. The fact cannot be overlooked that the British Pharmacopœia directs ipecacuanha wine to be made with the most strongly alcoholic sherry obtainable. Most sherries contain under 15 per cent. of alcohol; but by well-known methods, chiefly the addition of alcohol in the form of brandy, they can be strengthened to the Pharmacopœia requirement. When such strengthened wine is used in making vin. ipecac. it keeps well, as far as our experience goes, but vin. ipecac. made with weak sherry spoils quickly, and this is probably accountable for most of the worry which pharmacists have had with ipecacuanha wine during recent years. The cases will, at all events, serve to draw attention to this neglected point. Pharmacists have generally bought a sherry which they have found to suit their purpose best, and there are few who have given its alcoholic strength a thought. Even the real defendants in the cases reported do not appear to have been aware that their sherry was below Pharmacopœia strength, for, we take it, that if they had found 2 or 3 per cent. more alcohol less efficient for preserving the wine than the salicylic acid addition they would have said so in court. This matter will have to be seen to in the near future. It is also evident that the legitimate use of preservatives, such as salicylic acid, boric acid, borax, formalin, and acid sulphites, must be definitely decided by the Legislature. The fourth section of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act is not sufficiently precise for regulating additions which may be necessary

for preserving certain foods, such as milt, and drugs, such as vegetable infusions and solutions weak in alcohol. Antiseptics are in many cases absolutely needful for keeping articles a reasonable period. This is not a mere question whether antiseptics are injurious. The 0.27 gr. of salicylic acid in an ounce of ipecacuanha wine is harmless from the health point of view, but it enables a certain percentage of alcohol to be left out of, or not added to, the wine. It is for the same reason that the antiseptic is added to low-alcoholic wines generally, and the continuance of the practice is a fair subject for statutory decision instead of leaving it a matter for periodical analysts' wrangles.

#### PHARMACISTS PRESCRIBING AND DOCTORS DISPENSING.

In none of the legislation affecting medicine and pharmacy in the United Kingdom is the right of doctors to dispense medicines for their patients interfered with, and in only one section of a remote Act is that of pharmacists to prescribe for their customers even constructively dealt with. This is in the Apothecaries Act, 1815, and it is probable that the interpretation of the penal clause in that statute is not what was intended by its authors. Scotch and Irish pharmacists have no law of the kind to threaten them, unless in the latter case the old Irish Apothecaries Act could be brought to bear, and it is singular that in these countries counter-prescribing is by no means so common as in that part of the kingdom where it is expressly prohibited. In Scotland, wherever the practice does exist, no secret is made of it, and although in poor districts chemists may even visit patients, there is no posing as doctors, and few of the latter class consider that the chemists are taking the bread out of their mouths. Probably the reasons for this are that these poor patients have to choose between the chemist and the parish, and the practice is kept well within bounds. Ireland has been singularly free from anything of the kind; indeed, it is the country of the United Kingdom where medicine and pharmacy are carried on in what English pharmacists would consider ideal style. The dispensaries throughout the country meet the needs of the poorest. Doctors in higher circles do not dispense medicines, and pharmacists getting plenty of prescriptions have no inclination for counter-prescribing. Recently, however, there has been a charge, chiefly promoted by our influential Irish medical contemporary, the *Medical Press*, that pharmaceutical chemists in Dublin are fast becoming notorious as counter-prescribers. The President of the Irish Pharmaceutical Society, and other members of the Council, vigorously protested against the allegation at the May meeting, and showed conclusively, to our thinking, that the practice scarcely exists in Dublin; and, as far as we are aware, the same may be said for the rest of Ireland. After a lapse of five weeks the *Medical Press* returns to the charge because it believes "that counter-prescribing by chemists in Ireland has grown, and is daily growing, to formidable dimensions, and that it is largely practised, to the full knowledge of the leaders of the Society, who, though they will not pursue that trade themselves, take no steps to check it in those who are under their jurisdiction." This allegation is not supported by any fresh facts, and it is not necessary to reply to the editor's assumptions. But what could the Council do if the facts alleged were proved? According to our contemporary—

The Council might do a good deal, short of prosecution, to prevent the abuse. It would, for instance, we believe, be within its powers to exact from all candidates for licence a formal and solemn written declaration not to engage in any practice which they are not authorised by the Act to adopt,

and if the Council should find any licentiate breaking this promise it might officially remonstrate with him, and, if he persisted, might publicly express its disapproval of his conduct. We apprehend that such moral suasion as this would be almost as efficacious in preventing counter-prescribing as any actual penalty which might be imposed.

The Irish Pharmaceutical Council may be relied upon to show a stiff back to this appeal. The Society has no power to extract any declaration whatever from its licentiates, and if any attempt should ever be made to stretch the provisions of section 21 of the 1875 Act—which says, “The examiners are empowered to grant or refuse to such persons, as in their discretion may seem fit, certificates,” &c.—so as to effect what the *Medical Press* suggests, the most strenuous opposition should be offered by the whole Irish drug trade. The section referred to deals solely with the professional qualifications of candidates, and there is nothing in the Act or the amending Act to justify any interference with the manner in which licentiates may conduct their business, so long as they conform to the Act's requirements otherwise. Up to the present leaders of pharmacy have considered that the best way to discourage counter-prescribing is to raise the education and tone of those practising pharmacy, and this method is succeeding very well indeed. It would be a dangerous exercise of their powers if the Pharmaceutical Societies should attempt by a side wind to secure what the Legislature has not seen fit to grant, and in this matter of counter-prescribing the law has “let well alone.” It is not wise to force on too hard the ideal condition of things, when dispensing will be entirely left to pharmacists and prescribing to physicians. The two things are undoubtedly associated, and abandonment of dispensing by doctors and prescribing by pharmacists will be secured by the same means—viz., better appreciation by each class of the possibilities and responsibilities attached to the callings. This will be secured with increased education and culture. Medical journals are remarkably silent about the matter, so far as England and Wales is concerned, and it has been left to the *Hospital* to speak, and that so plainly that we cannot conclude this note better than in the words of this contemporary:—

There can hardly be any doubt, says the *Hospital*, that if medical men never had dispensed their own medicines they would now not begin. . . . The modern doctor, if he is to practise physic as modern science, and, indeed, the modern public, understands it, must be a man of scientific methods and philosophic habits of mind. . . . It is believed that dispensing is profitable, and that it keeps patients in touch with the doctor's surgery rather than with the chemist's shop. That may be so; and yet we feel that the modern doctor, educated as he is, and resolute as he ought to be to practise scientifically or not at all, is not in his place behind a dispensing counter. . . . The question, in its essence, is really one of medical progress. In its aspirations—and may we not also say in its achievements?—medicine is almost the most progressive of all the scientific arts. But medicine is not really progressive for the body of the people if no more than a few of the leading men in any one country are striving to promote the highest possible degree of common health. The “shop” is fatal to the mental habits of the studious person. It ought to be done away with. . . . We are sure that every medical man in the kingdom will agree with this proposition—namely, that if dispensing could be given up without risk it would be well to give it up.

#### PHARMACY AND AGRICULTURE.

THE greatest industry of the country has been this week holding its annual demonstration of its importance, and, notwithstanding the undoubted depression which still prevails in many departments of agricultural activity, the Royal Show appears to have been a great success, and to have

excited in some departments unprecedented competitions. It has occupied eighty acres in close proximity to the pleasant and easily accessible town of Leicester, and was thoroughly well organised. The Royal Show provides year by year convincing evidence of the vigour with which the British farmer and his allies are fighting for the maintenance of their position amid the ever-increasing stress of foreign competition. Scientific and mechanical aids to agriculture are now looked upon on all hands as indispensable, and everyone interested recognises the necessity of promoting by every means the prosperity of the subsidiary productions which are associated with the cultivation of the land. How clearly the conditions are perceived by the leaders of the farming interest was well illustrated at Leicester. The exhibit of poultry, for instance, was a record; dairy-work, bee-keeping, and fruit and vegetable drying were made special features; and machinery and implements were declared to be more numerous, more costly, and better shown than on any previous occasion.

Pharmacy is a comparatively insignificant side-show at the Royal, but it is gradually and surely asserting itself. The section of exhibits which comprises veterinary medicines, disinfectants, cattle-foods, sheep-dips, and the like, is grouped on one side of the ground, and is becoming quite a well-recognised development. To a large extent the same firms and the same exhibits appear year after year, and their names and specialities have become well fixed in the agricultural mind. Many of these firms spend from 100*l.* to 250*l.* over this show, and there is a lot of money in the business. We know of no development which offers such excellent prospects for the competent chemist and druggist as the cultivation of veterinary and agricultural trade. Scores of chemists find their way every year into the medical and dental professions, and occasionally make a success, especially by combining the latter with pharmacy; but a still more promising association is that of veterinary surgery with pharmacy. A chemist and druggist who has gone through the veterinary curriculum and obtained the diploma has acquired knowledge which should tell effectively in hundreds of localities throughout the United Kingdom and the colonies. The horse or stock owner can soon gauge the acquirements of the men with whom he deals for his physic, and if his confidence can be won, it is of substantial value.

Next week we shall publish some illustrated notes of the pharmaceutical exhibits at the Leicester show, and these we hope will tend to stimulate the cultivation of this branch of the drug-business.

#### DRUGGISTS AND DRUG-BROKERS.

WE feel compelled, with much regret, to declare that, in our opinion—and, we believe, in that of the majority of the drug-trade—the London drug-brokers are a most disappointing body of gentlemen. This expression of feeling is quite consistent with the respect which we bear them and the Association of which they form an important part. We are quite aware that there is an impression that we have been wanting in appreciation of their services as a section of the commercial community, but we assure them that, in a general way, we entertain the highest opinion of their business knowledge and reasonableness. But in their attitude in the citronella arbitrations, and in the agitation for a reform of the arbitration clauses in the Mincing Lane drug-contacts which had its origin in those arbitrations, we have failed to detect any signs of their usual fair and conciliatory attitude. We have felt it our duty, as the representative organ of the drug-trade, to

comment upon these matters. If the drug-brokers, either collectively or individually, feel aggrieved at the course we have pursued, we shall be pleased to open our correspondence columns to a statement of their case; but as, at a recent meeting of the Council of the Produce Brokers' Association, it was decided not to make any reply to our comments, it may be inferred that the brokers themselves are not so certain of the soundness of their case that they care to discuss it in public. Meanwhile, like the Bourbons when they returned to France which had outgrown the *ancien régime*, the drug-brokers appear to have learnt nothing and forgotten nothing. The lesson of recent law-court proceedings seems to have been wasted upon them. When Mr. Hy. Price attended a meeting at the Chamber of Commerce a few weeks ago, and the drug-trade demand was explained to him, he was so extremely conciliatory that many of the druggists believed that their wishes would be conceded without further trouble. But when, on Monday last, six prominent drug-brokers—including Mr. Andrew Devitt, the President of the General Produce Brokers' Association, Mr. Price himself, and Mr. Chas. Lambert, of the firm of Lambert & Strong—met three delegates of the Drug Club and three of the chemical section of the Chamber of Commerce at a Round Table Conference to discuss the revision of the arbitration clause, conciliation appeared to have vanished like the airy fabric of a vision. The meeting was long; it was occasionally stormy. It was, in short, if we may trust the accounts that are current concerning it, just such a one as would have been worth reporting from a journalistic point of view. But those present, in their wisdom, decided to hold their session *in camera*, probably with the intention (if all should be satisfactorily arranged behind the scenes) of announcing the result at a public gathering with all the time-honoured, if somewhat unexciting, official pomp and circumstance to which we are accustomed on such occasions. It is understood that the brokers announced their readiness to add words to the arbitration-clause allowing merchants to be called as experts in certain cases. This "concession" is worth nothing whatever in practice, inasmuch as, not only merchants, but analysts and others, can, and are occasionally, called as experts under the existing conditions. It was therefore rejected as inadequate by the unanimous vote of the Drug Club representatives (Messrs. R. B. Barron, Horner and Umney) and the Chamber of Commerce delegates (Messrs. Thos. Tyrer, Thos. Christy, and A. Domeier). The last-named gentlemen were particularly pressing in their insistence that the resolution adopted at the recent meeting as the irreducible minimum of the traders' demands should be accepted by the brokers in its entirety. The end of the matter, for the present, is that the brokers will deliberate among themselves and frame proposals for further discussion.

We earnestly hope that the druggists and merchants will refuse to abate one jot or tittle of their demands, which are essentially just and moderate. It is said that, as in France everything ends with a song, so in England everything is settled by compromise. There is a danger that such will be the case in this instance. Now it is not compromise that is wanted, but surrender on the part of the drug-brokers. The majority of these gentlemen unfortunately still cling to the delusion that "sale by sample" is a shibboleth to cover any malpractice or adulteration. The Chairman at Monday's meeting deliberately declared, we are informed, that if a sample of a drug were submitted, so cleverly adulterated as to deceive a buyer, and the drug were sold to him under the name applied to the pure article, the buyer had no redress.

He has no redress, it is true, if he appeals to Mincing Lane broker-arbitrators, and that is precisely the reason why

merchants want to alter the arbitration rules. Their cause is just, and if they stand firm they will win.

#### CHICAGO EXHIBITION, 1893.

The medals and diplomas awarded to British exhibitors at Chicago have at length been issued to H. B. M. Ambassador at Washington, and have been transmitted by him to the Foreign Office. Sir Henry Trueman Wood, of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, has been requested by the Secretary of State to undertake the duty of distributing them, and this will be done at once. All the exhibitors may expect to receive their medals within about a month from the present date.

#### A SUCCESSFUL LEMON-SYRUP.

This is a neat little recipe cut from *Success* of June 20:—

#### LEMON-SYRUP.

*Ingredients.*—1½ lb. of lump sugar, 2 oz. of oxalic acid, ½ teaspoonful of essence of lemon, 1 pint of cold water.

*Mode.*—Put the sugar into a saucepan, then add the water, and allow it to simmer for seven minutes. Put the oxalic acid into a basin with the essence of lemon, pour in the syrup and stir briskly. Allow this to cool and then bottle. When using, a tablespoonful is sufficient for a tumbler of water.

The information is not of much use to chemists, but it may be to the less-instructed readers of *Success*. The proprietors of that journal, we presume, will pay funeral-expenses, even although the editor makes a correction this week under "Pars to ponder over."

#### AN ANTI-CUTTING CUTTER.

Mr. Glyn-Jones professes, we believe, to admit to his *Anti cutting Record* no advertisement of goods which are permitted to be cut. The principle does not seem to apply to services, for the following announcement appears in the last number:—

**A**NALYSES.—A Qualified Analytical Chemist is prepared to undertake Analyses for Chemists and Druggists at half usual rates. Address, in first instance, A. B., &c.

We should hope the faithful among the anti-cuttingists will insist on paying A. B. full prices for his services.

#### REPETITION OF PRESCRIPTIONS.

The *Lancet*, referring to the repetition of Professor Middleton's prescription for morphine solution during a period of twenty-two years, when the professor died from an over-dose, contends that the Pharmacy Act

should be altered. Prescriptions such as this ought to be endorsed by the physician in some such way as the following:—"This prescription is not to be dispensed oftener than \_\_\_\_ without a fresh signature from me." If in addition the druggist were compelled to stamp the prescription with a date every time he made it up, the patient could not go from one druggist to another, as is occasionally done now, and buy, say, 1 drachm of the drug he seeks from each. We suppose that any proposal of this sort would meet with the usual silly opposition, and cries of interference with personal liberty and fettering of commerce; but if our parental legislators prevent small boys from playing pitch and toss, or "run in" the hard-working and industrious vendor of surprise packets, we do not see why they should not try, at any rate, to protect the community from being able to poison itself.

Perhaps if our friends in the Strand were to formulate a Pharmacy Acts Amendment Bill to incorporate their ideas, and try to get it through the Houses of Parliament, they would ascertain where the silly opposition comes from. If there are only such cases as Professor Middleton's to back the Bill, we expect the first question the House of Commons would ask is, "Is this a measure to put more fees into doctors' pockets?" In all seriousness, the cry about repetition of

prescriptions is scarcely worthy of educated professional men, considering its comparative rarity, and the extremely occasional harm that comes from the practice. It would be just as sane for us to ask the Legislature to imprison people who buy goods advertised in back numbers of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* as to make it an offence to dispense old prescriptions.

#### THE WOMAN AND THE LADY.

The *Hospital* quotes an advertisement which lately appeared in the *British Medical Journal* for a "Medical Woman as Clinical Assistant for the Out-patient Department; and Lady as Assistant Dispenser." It is to be hoped that the medical woman and the dispensing lady will be kept in separate cages, or, if not, that the latter will not presume too much on her superior dignity.

#### THE WORRIES OF SUBURBAN PRACTICE.

Dr. W. J. Qualtrough, Upper Holloway, a well-known and successful medical practitioner, committed suicide ten days ago by taking prussic acid. He left a letter, addressed to Dr. Danford Thomas, the Coroner, in which he said:—

For three and a half years I have suffered from diabetes. The strain upon me was so great that I have determined to take prussic acid. I hope you will not have a post-mortem on my wretched body.

W. J. QUALTROUGH.

The usual verdict was returned. The evidence showed that Dr. Qualtrough had built up a big practice in North London during the past dozen years, and although to all appearance he "had got on" and had a large *clientèle*, the fees were but moderate. As a matter of fact, the doctor had not been able to get a decent holiday for ten years. He was a worthy man and was much liked by chemists in his district.

### Proprietary Articles Trade Association.

THE first meeting of the recently-elected Council of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association was held on Wednesday last, June 24, at Anderton's Hotel. There were present:—Messrs. James Elliman, G. R. Barclay (Barclay & Sons), H. J. Hall (Hall's coca wine), W. A. Gilligan (Liebig's Extract of Meat Company), H. S. Norris (Condal Water Company), B. Hirst (Hirst, Brooke & Hirst, Leeds), J. Shorrock (Bovril, Limited), A. F. Bird (Bird's custard-powder), E. P. Sanger (Sanger & Sons), Charles Sanger (Lambert & Co.), J. W. Lee (Frame Food Company), James Cocks (Plymouth), A. Cooper (South Kensington), W. Johnston (Brixton), H. W. Seely (Halifax), S. Lister (Great Horton), S. N. Pickard (Bradford), W. R. Barnes (Upton Manor), and W. S. Glyn-Jones, Secretary.

Apologies were received from Mr. J. Thompson (Messrs. Maw, Son & Thompson), Messrs. Lynch & Co., Mr. Tebbutt (Sutton & Co.), Messrs. Evans, Gadd & Co., Mr. W. Jones (Birmingham), and Mr. J. E. Garratt (Frog in your throat).

Mr. Elliman took the chair, and intimated that applications for membership had been received from Messrs. W. Lambert & Co. (Scott's liver-pills), Mr. Thomas Holloway (Holloway's pills), and Mr. G. Mellin (Mellin's food). These firms were unanimously elected by the manufacturers present, and Messrs. Bleasdale (Limited), York, were similarly elected by the members of the wholesale section.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Council, held on April 8 last, were read and approved.

Mr. Hall moved, and Mr. Barclay seconded, that Mr. James Elliman be elected President of the Association. This was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Barclay and Mr. Gilligan were re-elected Vice-Presidents; and on the motion of Mr. Seely, of Halifax, Mr. James Cocks was appointed an additional Vice-President. Mr. Barclay and Mr. Glyn-Jones were also re-elected to their respective offices.

On the motion of Mr. Bird, seconded by Mr. Cooper, the Executive Committee were re-elected.

The following report of the Executive Committee was read and approved:—

#### REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Since the last meeting of the Council, meetings of retail chemists have been held at Brixton, Birmingham, Nottingham, South Kensington, Edinburgh, Leeds, Bradford, Halifax and Sheffield. They have in each case been attended by the Secretary and several members of the Council. In each instance they resulted in a numerous addition to the roll of retail members, and local executives have been left in the districts mentioned, who are actively working on our behalf.

The Executive Committee drew up a series of questions for submission to counsel to decide the legality of any action which may be taken to protect prices. The questions were submitted through Messrs. Ingle, Holmes & Co., Threadneedle Street, to Mr. Charles E. E. Jenkins. The Committee are glad to report that in every respect this opinion appears satisfactory.

In accordance with instructions received at the last meeting of the Council, the Committee have taken steps for the election of the new Council. Every member of the Association was communicated with as to whether his name should be submitted for election. Thirty-six retailers replied in the affirmative, ten manufacturers, and eight wholesalers. Voting papers were sent to each member of the retail section, with the result that the following ten were elected:—

W. R. Barnes, Upton Manor, London, E.  
James Cocks, 8 Edgcumbe Street, Stonehouse, Devon  
A. Cooper, 80 Gloucester Road, South Kensington, S.W.  
T. P. Garrett, 33 Commercial Street, Newport  
W. Johnston, 69 Loughborough Road, Brixton, S.W.  
W. Jones, 2 High Street, Birmingham  
S. Lister, Great Horton, Bradford  
S. N. Pickard, 74 Manningham Lane, Bradford  
H. W. Seely, 14 Southgate, Halifax  
J. Williams, 47 Wilmslow Road, Didsbury

As there were but ten nominations to the manufacturers section there was no election, the following firms constituting the section:—

Alfred Bird & Sons, Birmingham	J. E. Garratt (Frog in your throat)
Bovril (Limited)	Stephen Smith & Co.
Corneille, David & Co.	Condal Water Company (Limited)
Fassett & Johnson	Oppenheimer, Son & Co. (Limited)
Frame Food Company (Limited)	Lambert & Co.

The following eight wholesale houses were also similarly elected to the wholesale section:—

Barclay & Sons (Limited)	Lynch & Co. (Limited)
Butler & Crispe	Maw, Son & Thompson
Evans, Gadd & Co., Exeter	J. Sanger & Sons
Hirst, Brooke & Hirst, Leeds	W. Sutton & Co.

Since the last meeting of the Council the committee appointed to confer with the Grocers' Federation met their committee on April 21, at the office of the Federation, Eastcheap. The scheme was discussed by that committee, and was favourably received. Subsequently a detailed statement of our proposals was sent to the secretary of the Federation, with an intimation that we were advised that the proposals were legal. The committee of the Grocers' Federation have since met, and have written for a copy of counsel's opinion, in order that they might have the final advice of their solicitor on the matter. The opinion referred to has been sent to the Federation, on the understanding that it should be treated as a confidential document, and the report of their committee is to be brought up at the annual meeting of the whole Federation, to be held at Cardiff next month.

So far, the proprietors of the following articles are prepared to commence protection on the lines indicated in the report of the Executive Committee:—

Invalid Bovril	Scott's pills
Frog in your throat	Condal water
Liebig's peptone of beef	Johnson's soothing-syrup
Hall's coca wine	Sutton & Co.'s proprietaries

Mr. Cocks asked what the minimum profit on each of the articles named above would be. Approximately they are as follows:—

Invalid Bovril.—30 per cent.

Frog in your throat.—33½ per cent.

Liebig's peptone of beef.—Wholesale price, 9s. 6d. per dozen; retail minimum price, 1s.

Hall's coca wine.—Wholesale price, 2s. 3d.; retail price, 3s.

Scott's pills.—Wholesale, 10s. per dozen; retail, 1s.

Condal water.—Wholesale, 13s. 6d. per dozen; retail, 1s. 6d.

Johnson's soothing-syrup.—Wholesale, 10s. 6d. per dozen; retail, 1s. 1½d

Sutton's proprietaries.—About 25 per cent.

In the case of invalid Bovril, Frog in your throat, Liebig's peptone of beef, Condal water, Johnson's soothing syrup, and Sutton's proprietaries no cutting of any kind would be allowed.

Mr Elliman said that he could not add his embrocation to the combination, and stated as his reasons that his firm were not prepared to co-operate with any proprietors who did not protect the article for which they had the most sale, and he also objected to combine with any house who stipulated that the advertised price should be the minimum price. He was of opinion that it was absolutely necessary to allow a discount to cash customers, and he thought it would be found impossible to insist upon full prices being obtained. His article was already protected, and he would certainly not run any risk of failure.

Mr. Gilligan, for the Liebig Company, stated that their only reason for not adding their meat extract to the present list was that, so far, this organisation was pre-eminently a combination of those engaged in the chemist's business. Their extract of meat was much more largely distributed by grocers, and they would have great pleasure in protecting their extract upon similar lines when a large number of grocers had joined the organisation.

Mr. Shorrock (Bovril, Limited) explained that that was their position with regard to their articles. Invalid Bovril was an article distributed by chemists only, and at this juncture they thought it wise to confine the present arrangement to that article.

Mr. Glyn-Jones stated that the executive had recognised the difficulties in the way of such firms as Bovril, Bird, Frame Food Company, and others, whose articles were much more largely handled by the grocery trade than by chemists, and had come to the conclusion that it would be wise, by way of experiment, to immediately start operations with those articles whose proprietors were prepared to commence at present. The growth of the list would lay largely with the retailers themselves. At any rate, the present articles would afford an opportunity for putting the Association's plan into operation. If it was successful in this case, it could be applied to other articles having a large or a small consumption; and if it was found satisfactory, as he believed it would, retailers could convey sufficiently clearly their wishes to the other manufacturers connected with the Association, and use their utmost endeavours to induce them to add their articles to the combination.

A resolution adopting this list was put to the meeting, and was carried with one dissentient—namely, Mr. Elliman.

The Executive Committee were ordered to take the necessary steps for appearing at the Chemists' Exhibition to be held in August, and the Grocers', which takes place in October; and the Committee were also empowered with the finances of the Association.

Mr. James Cocks moved a resolution recommending the payment of the railway fares of country members. This was supported by Mr. Seely, Mr. Pickard, and Mr. Gilligan.

Mr. Norris considered that the Association was not yet strong enough to admit of this.

Mr. Elliman thought the matter was of sufficient interest to retailers to warrant their attending meetings at their own or at the local Association's expense.

Mr. Bird sympathised with the representatives of the retailers in this respect, and thought they were entitled to their expenses, but he hoped that, seeing that the Association was as yet in its infancy, they would forego the matter for the present.

Mr. Cocks, in the face of these remarks, withdrew his motion, promising to bring it up at a later date.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

"GUAIACOCAIN" is the name of a new speciality registered in the United States by Messrs. McKesson & Robbins, New York.

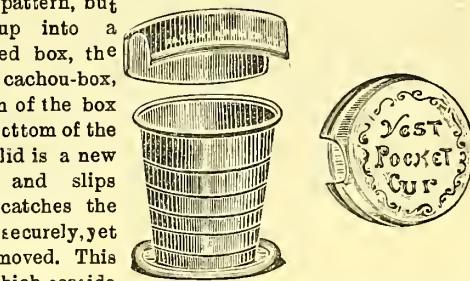
## Novelties.

### LENTILINE AND CHARCOAL DIGESTIVE BISCUITS.

MESSRS. E. MARRIOTT & CO., of Hastings and Leamington, have for some years been making patent lentiline biscuits, which contain a percentage of the nutritious lentil. They are now combining this basis with vegetable charcoal, and in the form of the new digestive biscuit provide one of the pleasantest remedies for flatulence and other dyspeptic consequences which we have tasted. The biscuits should be a good thing for chemists to handle. They are put up in 1s 4d. and 4s. boxes, and may be obtained direct, or from Messrs. Barclay & Son, 95 Farringdon Street; F. Newbery & Sons, 1 King Edward Street, Newgate Street; and J. Sanger & Sons, 2 Wirsley Street, Oxford Street, W.

### PROFITABLE EXTRAS.

MESSRS. W. B. FORDHAM & SON, York Road, King's Cross, N., sends us a few novelties which we are sure chemists will be glad to hear of, and which many in town and country can sell. First is a vest-pocket drinking-cup of the usual telescopic pattern, but shutting up into a nickel-plated box, the size of a cachou-box, the bottom of the box being the bottom of the cup. The lid is a new invention, and slips over and catches the bottom rim securely, yet is easily removed. This is a line which seaside chemists should get at once, for they will only need to be exposed to sell. The next item is the "Universal" polishing-glove, to sell at 1s. It is made for the right



hand, of waterproof cloth, the palm being a piece of sheep's-skin with the wool on. It is for polishing furniture, metals, and tan boots, for washing dogs, and for many other purposes—in fact, the glove is good enough for a friction-glove, especially for delicate skins, as it produces a nice degree of warmth without irritating the skin. There is more than a "living profit" on the article, as the cost is 6s. 6d. per dozen. The last item is Dean's medicated garden-shreds for nailing climbing plants to walls. These are lengths of a strong tape treated chemically (we prefer that word to "medicated") so that insects give the shreds a wide berth, whereas there is no sure place to find eggs, &c., than in the woollen shreds generally used. Dean's shreds are made in five sizes, and retail at from 4d. to 1s. 3d. per hundred. They are supplied in boxes of 1,000 ready for exhibition on the counter. Chemists who sell garden seeds, and agricultural chemists generally, will find them a saleable line. All these specialities can be obtained through druggists' sundries houses, or in quantity from Messrs. Fordham.

## New Companies and Company News.

**NEW TRANSVAAL CHEMICAL COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 16,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the undertaking, property, assets, and rights of the Transvaal Chemical Company (Limited), to enter into and carry into effect an agreement with the said company and R. A. Murray, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in sulphuric and other acids, and all kinds of chemicals and chemical substances.

**MELLIN'S FOOD (LIMITED).**—Capital 250,000*l.*, divided into 20,000 6 per cent. cumulative Preference shares of 5*l.* each, and 150,000 ordinary shares of 1*l.* each. Objects: To acquire and take over as a going concern the business carried on by G. Mellin at Marlborough Works, Peckham, S.E., and to buy, sell, manufacture, repair, alter, exchange, let on hire, export and deal in all kinds of articles and things which may be required for the purposes of the said business. The first directors (to number not fewer than three nor more than five) are:—G. Mellin (who will receive no remuneration), E. C. Bliss, and G. A. Maull. Qualification, 100*l.* Remuneration, 500*l.* per annum divided between them.

**J. M. CROSBY (LIMITED).**—Capital, 6,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire, take over as a going concern, and carry on the business of wholesale and retail chemists and druggists, mineral-water and cod-liver oil manufacturers and oil and colour merchants, carried on by the executors and trustees of the will of the late James M. Crosby at Scarborough, Yorks, under the style of "J. M. Crosby," to acquire, take over, and carry on the business of a chemist and druggist, carried on by Robert Gilchrist, at 1 Gladstone Street, Scarborough, and to enter into two agreements for such acquisition. The first directors (to number not fewer than two nor more than seven) are:—George A. Smith, James H. Delday, John Stephenson, and Robert Gilchrist. Qualification, 10 shares. Remuneration, as the company may decide.

**MIDLAND APOTHECARIES' COMPANY (LIMITED).**—The annual meeting of this company was held at 37 Waterloo Street, Birmingham, on June 19, Mr. F. H. Prosser in the chair, when a dividend of 7½ per cent. was declared. It was also resolved to purchase the business of Messrs. Lake, Millar & Co., of Birmingham, chemists' sundries manufacturers, and to appoint Mr. E. J. Lake one of the managing directors.

**THE PACIFIC BORAX AND REDWOOD'S CHEMICAL-WORKS (LIMITED).** has been formed to acquire and carry on as going concerns the businesses of the Pacific Coast Borax Company, of San Francisco, California, and of Messrs. Redwood & Sons, chemical manufacturers, of Cornwall Works, Kennington Green, and Belvedere Mills, Belvedere, Kent (a manufacturing business established by the late Professor Redwood), and to acquire the lands and buildings in the United States, and at Belvedere, Kent, the deposits of crude borax at California, Nevada, and Oregon, and the goodwill, stock-in-trade, engines, plant, machinery, tools, utensils, and trade-marks appertaining to both businesses. The purchase price has been fixed at 510,000*l.*—namely, 133,340*l.* in cash or preference shares, 66,660*l.* in preference shares, and 310,000*l.* in ordinary shares. The shares offered to the public are the balance—namely, 13,334 6 per cent. cumulative preference shares of 10*l.* each, and 110,000*l.* first mortgage 5 per cent. debentures. The profits of the two concerns are stated in the prospectus to have been 89,299*l.* in 1892-93, 81,036*l.* in 1893-94, and 53,481*l.* in 1894-95; and in those three years the Pacific Coast Borax Company sold 7,498,542 lbs., 7,341,832 lbs., and 9,570,849 lbs. respectively. The fall in profits is explained as having been due to the adoption of a policy of cutting, for the purpose of checking competition and of popularising the article. Mr. R. C. Baker, of the Redwood Company, is named as a director, and is to be managing-director in Europe.

## Trade-Marks Applied for.

ANY person who has good grounds of objection to the registration of any of the following marks should at once communicate with Sir Reader Lack, Comptroller-General, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," June 24, 1896.)

"**ALAPURIN**"; for wool grease and products therefrom, specially prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. By Norddeutsche Wollkämmerei & Kammgarnspinnerei, Geeren, No. 46 Bremen; manufacturers. 194,835.

Device of frog; for medicines for human use. By Hance Brothers & White, 621 to 635 Callohill Street, Philadelphia, U.S.A.; manufacturers. 194,234.

Landscape device with running brook; for all goods included in Class 3. By G. H. Brookes, 101 Mostyn Street, Llandudno; chemist and druggist. 194,300.

"**HAYLOS**"; for substances used as food or as ingredients in food. By W. Kemp & Son, 17 High Street, Horncastle, Lincs; wholesale druggist. 193,749.

"**AVICA**"; for bird-seed. By H. Sharp & Son, Bourn Works, 42 Burley Road, Leeds; manufacturing chemist. 194,847.

"**MANCERNO**"; for an ingredient to be used instead of cream of tartar in confectionery. By the Manchester Chemical Company, 2 Corn Exchange, Fearn Street, Manchester. 194,984.

"**PEPTARNIS**"; for substances used as food or as ingredients in food. By Liebig's Extract of Meat Company (Limited), 9 Fenchurch Avenue, E.C. 195,078.

"**CORNRADE**"; for perfumery, toilet articles, soap, &c. By Bird's Soap Company, East Moors, Cardiff. 195,326.

"**COBRA**" and figure of same; for a boot-polish. By Blyth & Platt, The Solar Works, Mill Street, Altrincham; chemical manufacturers. 191,169. The essential particular are the figure and the word "Cobra."

"**BALM TONIC**"; device of cog-wheel containing initials G.B.T., and other wording on floral carton; for a patent medicine for human use. By J. Taylor & Co., 20 Manor Street, Bolton; chemists and druggists. 190,174. The essential particular is the device.

Figure of human skull and bones of arms and hands, with initials J.B.H. contained in double circle; also wording "Boonfield's Death to Suffering," for a liniment for human use. By Lofthouse & Salmer, 12 Market Place, Hull; wholesale druggists. 194,297. The essential particular is the combination of devices.

## Deeds of Arrangement.

Willsher, Stephen Henry, Tenterden and Ashford, chemist, druggist, cattle-food manufacturer and stationer. Trustee, George White, - 14 Old Jewry Chambers, London, C.A. Dated, June 18; filed, June 19. Liability unsecured, 1,173*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*; estimated net assets, 400*l.* Assignment upon trust to realise, &c., certain creditors of the second part postponing their claims until the creditors of the first part have received a dividend of 10*s.* in the pound. The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Bankers' claims .. .. .. ..	50	0	0
Bennett, J., Tenterden .. .. .. ..	25	0	0
Bolton, T., Hastings .. .. .. ..	23	0	0
Browning & Co., Lewes .. .. .. ..	19	0	0
Cooper, W., & Co. .. .. .. ..	170	0	0
Edwards, W., & Son, London .. .. .. ..	23	0	0
Hill, A. S., & Son, London .. .. .. ..	18	0	0
Hodgkinson & Co., London .. .. .. ..	14	0	0
Mackey, Mackey & Co., London .. .. .. ..	19	0	0
Pinyon Aaron, Tenterden .. .. .. ..	45	0	0
Railway Passengers' Assurance Com. any, London .. .. .. ..	91	0	0
Sayers, E., London .. .. .. ..	13	0	0

				£	s.	d.
Sun Fire Office, London	..	..	..	15	0	0
Stonham & Son, Maidstone	..	..	..	28	0	0
Taddy & Co., London	..	..	..	32	0	0
Tidman & Son, London	..	..	..	23	0	0
Weeks & Son, Tenterden	..	..	..	25	0	0
Whitaker, P. J., & Co., London	..	..	..	31	0	0
Willsher, T.	..	..	..			

Kinkend, Andrew, druggist, &c., 13 Donegall Street, Belfast. A petition for arrangement and affidavit of assets and liabilities under the Deeds of Arrangement Amendment Act, 1890, was filed on June 17 by the above named. The unsecured liabilities are returned at £1,000*l.*, and the net assets at 70*l.* The following are filed as creditors:—

				£	s.	d.
Newberry, Francis, & Son, London	..	..	..	6	18	8
Stephenson, H. F. & Co., London	..	..	..	15	2	5
Boehm, Gustav, London	..	..	..	19	15	0
Barely & Sons (Limited), London	..	..	..	13	12	0
Gibbs, D. & W. (Limited), London	..	..	..	14	13	3
Silverlock, Henry, London	..	..	..	6	17	3
Gawdery & Son, London	..	..	..	6	5	10
Whittaker & Grissmith, London	..	..	..	25	4	0
Davy, Yates & Hicks, London	..	..	..	10	18	1
Bistow, J. F., & Co., London	..	..	..	9	4	7
Sharp Brothers Perfumery Company (Limited)	..	..	..	6	12	0
Allardice, J. C., & Co., Belfast	..	..	..	11	14	2
Anglo-American Oil Company, Belfast	..	..	..	13	17	3
Haslett, J. & J., Belfast	..	..	..	8	11	6
Campbell, James A., & Co., Belfast	..	..	..	15	15	6
Tate, Robert, Belfast	..	..	..	10	15	8
Dobbin, William, & Co. (Limited), Belfast	..	..	..	9	5	6
Tully, Stephen, Belfast	..	..	..	6	5	6
Beck, James A., & Sons, Belfast	..	..	..	9	15	6
Freeman, J., Belfast	..	..	..	35	0	0
Barnett & Co., Birmingham	..	..	..	5	13	10
West of England Varnish Company, Bristol	..	..	..	16	1	3
Harrington Brothers, Cork	..	..	..	16	9	6
Mould & Todd, Edinburgh	..	..	..	5	9	4
Anderson, James, & Co., Glasgow	..	..	..	6	0	0
Storer, James, & Co., Glasgow	..	..	..	16	8	1
Sadler & Co., Glasgow	..	..	..	21	3	4
Halden, Percy, Glasgow	..	..	..	18	7	5
MacIntyre, Thomas, & Co., Glasgow	..	..	..	60	16	11
Meigh, W. M., Hanley	..	..	..	8	15	6
Lloyd, T. Howard & Co., Leicester	..	..	..	5	16	8
Banner, Samuel, & Co., Liverpool	..	..	..	26	9	3
Simmer, R., & Co., Liverpool	..	..	..	15	19	11
Shaw & Hamilton, Liverpool	..	..	..	7	11	0
Goldsworthy, Thomas, & Sons, Liverpool	..	..	..	5	12	0
United Alkali Company (Limited), Liverpool	..	..	..			
Peterson, M., & Co., Liverpool	..	..	..	1	4	0
Higginbottom & Co., Manchester	..	..	..	11	5	4
Byton, Astley & Co., Manchester	..	..	..	8	9	7
Wilkinson, Edward, Manchester	..	..	..	5	8	4
Anglo-American Oil Company (Limited), Manchester	..	..	..	9	14	9
Kerfoot, Thomas, Manchester	..	..	..	14	16	6
Wilkinson, James F., Manchester	..	..	..	7	3	4
Woolley, James, Sons & Co., Manchester	..	..	..	51	2	10
Sauvignette, Albert, Marseilles	..	..	..	22	2	2
Polson, William, Paisley	..	..	..	60	16	9
Mackean, William, Paisley	..	..	..	11	15	0
Turner, P. T., & Co. (Limited), Sheffield	..	..	..	7	3	10
Sampson & Co., Stroud	..	..	..	12	5	10
Bleasdale (Limited), York	..	..	..	11	9	1

SCOPOLAMINE has been found by Leuterer in the young leaves of *Duboisia myoporoides*, and he has observed the curious fact that old leaves and stems contain hyoscyamine. Jahns has found only the latter alkaloid in other species, and it is suggested that they form good material for the manufacture of hyoscyamine, as much as 2 per cent. sometimes being found in them.

INDIGO MANUFACTURE.—As the result of analysis of indigo-liquor, Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Ranking concludes that alkalinity of the water used to macerate the indigo plant, the application of heat during maceration, and last, but not least, prolonged "beating" in order to oxidise imperfectly fermented vat-liquor, all result in the formation of the soluble indigo brown, and should, therefore, be avoided in manufacture. His paper is published in the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*.

## Marriages.

BOTHAM—PULLEN.—On June 18, at St. John's, Brixton, London, by the Rev. A. E. Tonkin, William Bland Botham, pharmaceutical chemist, Bournemouth, to Florence, daughter of the late William Pullen, Brixton.

DOMPÉ—BESTETTI.—At Mi'an, on June 20, D. Onorato Dompé, of the Farmacia Centrale, Milan, to Mile. Luigia Bestetti.

FURNESS—CHILD.—On June 4 at St. Thomas's Church, Preston, by the Rev. W. J. Lake, M.A., Thos. E. Furness, chemist, Clayton-le-Moors, to Jennie, daughter of Mr. W. Child, Supervisor, Inland Revenue, Preston.

RICHARDS—HODGSON.—On June 16, at Zion Church, Rathgar, by the Rev. A. Bartor, D.D., assisted by the Rev. J. Haythornthwaite, M.A., Edward Valentine, youngest son of William Alexander Richards, Ruggin Court, Somerset, to Clara, youngest daughter of Mr. Edward M. Hodgson, J.P., M.C.P.S.I. (of McMaster, Hodgson & Co., wholesale druggists, Dublin)

SMART—PAPE.—At Esher Parish Church, on June 19, by the Rev. E. Hone, James Smart, chemist, 126 Clapham Road, S.W., to Mary Gertrude, third daughter of Mr. John Pape, Esher Lodge Farm.

## Deaths.

TAYLOR.—On June 18, at Atlantic Avenue, Belfast, Thomas Stephenson Taylor, L.P.S.I., Clanrola, Lurgan.

WILLIAMS.—On June 15, at 123 Granby Street, Liverpool, Mr. William Williams, chemist and druggist. Aged 45.

## Wills of Deceased Chemists.

The will of Mr. George Ashmall, chemist and druggist, of Wallingford, who died on November 11 last, has been proved by Mr. John Carthew, of Wallingford, accountant, the sole executor, by whom the personality is sworn at 232*l.* 6*d.*

The will, with a codicil, of Mr. Edward Morris, of Tenbury, chemist and druggist, who died on December 4, 1895, has been proved by Mr. Ralph Clayton Morris, dentist, Tenbury, the son, and Mr. F. S. Wrigglesworth, 98 Browngrave Street, Kidderminster, the other surviving executor of the testator, whose personality is sworn at 526*l.* Cs 6*d.*

The will of Mr. Chas. Miller Footit, retired chemist and druggist, of Great Marlow, Bucks, and Maidenhead, Berks, who died on February 9, 1896, has been proved by the Misses M. F. Comperie Footit and Lillian Footit, the daughters and executrices of the testator, whose personality is sworn at 843*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* gross and 709*l.* 10*s.* net.

The will and codicil of Mr. Frederick Appleby, chemist and druggist (retired), East Retford, who died on February 6, 1896, have been proved by Mr. Thos. Walker, East Retford, and Mr. F. H. Appleby, surgeon, the testator's son. The gross personality amounts to 7,516*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.*, and the net to 7,470*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.*

At the Principal Probate Registry letters of administration to the estate of the late Mr. A. H. Bartlett, chemist and druggist, 11 Cross Street, Ryde, I.W., who died intestate on July 30, 1895, have been granted to his widow, Mrs. G. M. Bartlett, of Hazel Mountside Cross, Newport, I.W., by whom the value of the deceased's personality, excluding freehold property, is sworn at 109*l.* 10*s.*

The will of Mr. Charles Henry Farrow, chemist and druggist, Palgrave, Suffolk, who died on December 7, 1895, has been proved by Mrs. Ann Mary Farrow, the widow, and Mr. Samuel Farrow, Wangford, the brother, the executors of the testator, whose personality is sworn at 1,612*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* gross, and nil net.

## Trade Reports.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., June 25.

THERE appears to be somewhat more trade doing in the export department, but quietness continues to reign in the wholesale home trade. Wholesale druggists are stock-taking, and that fact increased the disinclination on their part to buy at to-day's auctions. Those sales, however, showed a fair amount of animation, and all round there are a good many changes in the market, several of them in an upward direction. Heavy chemicals are generally unchanged. Glycerine is very firm; permanganate of potash again somewhat dearer. In fine chemicals we have to report a steady market in cream of tartar and in citric and tartaric acids. Refined camphor is in demand, notwithstanding which a German firm again offers at somewhat lower rates. Pilocarpine has been advanced. Santonin is rather steadier. Quinine dull and unchanged. English scammony resin is extremely firm. In the crude-drug department we have to report a firm position in fine dragons-blood, and higher quotations for insect-powder and flowers. Saffron remains steady. Ergot of rye sells readily, but at very low rates. Manna looks like going higher. Ipecacuanha a trifle dearer for Brazilian and slightly easier for Colombian. Castor-oil is very firm and tending higher. Cod-liver oil dull. Menthol steady. Grey Jamaica sarsaparilla much dearer, all other kinds very firm. Senega-root a trifle steadier. Ambergris tending lower. Cape aloes a shade easier, other kinds unchanged. Buchu-leaves steady. Fine Siam benzoin lower. Balsam tolu firm. Fine Copabas very scarce. Cardamoms quiet and unchanged. Crude camphor lower to arrive. Cassia fistula sold cheaply. Calumba firmly held. Cascarilla and Turkish colocynth still advancing. Chinese cantharides dull. Elemi remains neglected. In gum acacia no business has transpired. Guarana has been in request at higher rates, but gamboge dropped from 10s. to 15s. per cwt. to-day. Honey steady, especially for Californian. Jalap quiet. Kola-nuts dull. First-pile Tonquin musk sold at about 3s. decline, and myrrh was knocked down at very cheap rates. In essential oils a good business has been done in star-anise. Cassia is quiet; other oils unchanged. Rhubarb sold fairly well at unchanged rates. Tinnevelly senna firmly held. Senega tending slightly firmer. Scammony-root extremely firm. Tonca beans dull. Vanilla steady. Chinese vermilion somewhat easier. Beeswax steady for Jamaica and fine Australian; Madagascar and Zanzibar easier. The spice-market has been extremely dull, with a generally easier tendency. At auction on Wednesday capsicums were lower. Chillies, Zanzibar cloves, mace, and Cochin ginger flat. There was no animation in Jamaican ginger, nutmegs were easier, black and white pepper extremely dull. Pimento steady. Cassia lignea is firmer; whole quill has been sold at 32s. per cwt. Shellac was in fair demand at auction, second orange realising steady rates, while garnet was 1s. per cwt. dearer. Since then the market has become dull, and there are sellers of TN orange for August delivery at 93s. 6d. per cwt. Quicksilver is quiet. In oils there are few changes. Linseed oil is rather firmer, rape 6d. to 9d. dearer (refined 23s. to 23s. 6d. per cwt.). Cottonseed slightly firmer for crude, and steady for refined. Palm oil is a little dearer; fine Lagos, 20s. 9d. per cwt. Cocoanut and olive oils unchanged. Turpentine weak and very low in price, at 19s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per cwt. Petroleum very

dull; American 5 $\frac{5}{16}$ d. to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., Russian 5d. per gallon. The Bank-rate remains at 2 per cent. Bar-silver is slightly dearer at 31 $\frac{9}{16}$ d. per oz.

Our New York correspondent, cabling on Thursday evening, states that *Curaçao aloes* is firmly held at 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. per lb. Good qualities of *Copaiba balsam* and New York of *Californian honey* are very scarce. Prices of the last-named article are advancing, white being now quoted at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., amber at 6c. per lb. A considerable business has been done in *Jalap*, of which 163 packages have been sold at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb. *Mexican Sarsaparilla* has advanced to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb. *Spermaceti* is quoted at 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., and fair bleached *Beeswax* at 28c. per lb.

ACIDS.—*Tartaric* unchanged: foreign, 1s. 2d.; English, 1s. 3d. per lb. *Citric* steady at 1s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to 1s. 2d. per lb., according to position. *Carbolic* offers at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 7d. per lb. for crystals, 39° to 40° C., 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. for ditto 34° to 35° C. Crude: 60 per cent., 1s. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 75 per cent., 2s. 4d. per gallon.

ALOES.—*East Indian* varieties were not offered to-day. *Cape aloes* is about 6d. per cwt. cheaper, 27 boxes out of 32 offered selling at 25s. per cwt. for bright hard, and from 22s. to 24s. for middling to good seconds. A parcel of 176 boxes *Curaçao aloes* was bought in, bids of 17s. and 18s. being refused for ordinary dark, while fair brown liver was bought in at from 35s. to 42s. per cwt.

AMBERGRIS is tending decidedly easier; for fine grey 105s. to 110s. per oz. is still asked, and for good quality about 90s. per oz., but ordinary grades are plentiful and difficult of sale. At auction over 300 oz. were offered, and bought in at from 60s. for fair grey and 30s. to 45s. for black *New Zealand* of good aroma, down to 30s. for ordinary black quality.

ANTIMONY pretty steady. Fifty cases good *Japanese* of rather ordinary quality were bought in to-day at 19s. 10s. per ton.

ANNATTO.—Ten cases fair annatto-paste, offered without reserve, found no buyers, and were taken out. Of 21 bags annatto seed 7 of fair quality sold cheaply, subject to approval, at 3d. per lb. Good bright *Madras* seed was bought in at 5d. per lb.

BALSAMS.—*Copaiba* of fine quality is difficult to find, and high prices are asked for it. Of *Gurjun* (wood oil) 3 casks were offered, of which 2 sold at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. *Peru* balsam quieter. Seven packages were shown at auction, and for one lot 8s. 3d. per lb. would have been taken, but there were no buyers. Twelve cases spurious *Tolu* balsam were bought in. Good quality is scarce and firmly held.

BENZOIN.—This week the *Menelaus* has brought 171, and the *Canton* 69, packages of benzoin from Singapore. There have also been somewhat considerable arrivals in Amsterdam lately, but fine *Sumatra* gum appears to be but poorly represented in them. *Siam* gum was only represented by 5 packages, of which 4 sold at a decline of 3s. per cwt. on pale medium to bold detached almonds, which realised 31s.; small to medium pale loose almonds realised 19s. 10s.; small drop and siftings, partly blocky, 12s. per cwt. For dull grey sandy block 43s. per cwt. was accepted, a decline of 9s. 6d. on the last sale rates. *Sumatra* benzoin is very quiet. Of 219 packages only 8 sold at 7s. 7s. 6d. per cwt. for seconds good almond centres, false packed top and bottom. The other lots were bought in at nominal rates. Seventy-two cases *Palembang* benzoin were also bought in at from 25s. to 47s. 6d. per cwt., according to quality.

CALUMBA.—The expected further increase in price has not taken place. At any rate it was not perceptible at to-day's auctions, when 96 packages were all bought in at 45s. for good yellow washed, 18s. to 20s. per cwt. for fair brownish chips and sorts, and 16s. per cwt. for ordinary sorts; for this last lot a bid of 13s. was refused.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE) has become dull and easier again, *Formosa* gum offering at about 10s. below last week's quota-

tions—viz., 77s. 6d., c.i.f., for August—October shipment. Yesterday's quotation for July—August was 80s. per cwt., with rather pressing sellers. No business is reported.

**CAMPHOR (REFINED).**—The English manufacturers are fully occupied executing current orders and very firm in their quotations, and the German makers also quote steady rates. A German second-hand seller, however, has reduced his prices again, and now quotes 1s. 1½d. per lb., c.i.f. net terms, for bells, August delivery.

**CANTHARIDES.**—Chinese flies are dull of sale, fair quality continues to realise 11d. per lb.

**CARDAMOMS.**—In moderate supply, 176 packages being shown to-day, of which 119 sold with no quotable alteration in price, the market being fairly steady. *Mysore* realised 2s. 10d. for good bold plump round pale; 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d. for medium to bold pale plump; 2s. 1d. to 2s. 3d. for small to medium full round; 1s. 9d. to 2s. for small pale, and from 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d. for ordinary brownish to fair pickings, and 1s. 11d. to 2s. for medium pale long. Fair plump bleached *Mangalore* brought 2s. 4d. to 2s. 5d. per lb. Seeds were in large supply at 2s. for common to 2s. 11d. for good. A parcel of 1,500 lbs. was bought in at 3s. per lb. Six cases very mouldy and apparently spurious seed from Hamburg were bought in.

**CASCARILLA.**—About 2s. dearer. Of 40 bales placed in auction 20 sold at 47s. to 49s. for good bright partly quilly shape, 40s. for dark chips, and 33s. 6d. per cwt. for siftings.

**CASSIA FISTULA.**—Forty bags *West Indian*, fair pods, sold very cheaply at 16s. per cwt., and a parcel of 80 bags ordinary common wormy *Bombay* (this variety is generally in poor condition) were taken out.

**CINCHONA.**—The following figures relate to the exports of cinchona-bark from Java during the 10 monthly periods from July 1 to April 30 of the past five years:—

—	1895-6	1894-5	1893-4	1892-3	1891-2
Private plantations (Amsterdam lbs.) ..	7,018,745	6,796,622	5,378,891	5,911,599	6,140,017
Government plantations (Amsterdam lbs.) ..	604,382	553,448	392,869	£33,034	536,677
Total ..	7,623,127	7,350,070	5,771,760	6,444,633	6,676,694

Our Amsterdam correspondent reports that several lots of Java cinchona bought in at the last auctions have since been sold. The only parcel at to-day's auctions calling for remark consisted of 14 bales thin cultivated *Bolivian Calisaya*, which was bought in at 1s. 1d. per lb.

**COCA.**—The exports from Java are increasing. From July 1, 1895, to April 30, 1896, they amounted to 905 cases, compared with 901 and 12 cases in the same periods of 1894-5 and 1893-4.

**COLOCYNTH.**—At auction 2s. 8d. per lb. was mentioned as the price for 10 cases good bold mixed *Turkish* apple rather dark in colour.

**CREAM OF TARTAR** is rather firmer, but prices remain unchanged; best white French crystals, 95s.; powder, 97s. per cwt.

**CUBEBS.**—The exports of cubebs from Java have this season shown a considerable falling off upon 1895. The following are the figures for the 10 months from July 1 to April 30 of the last five seasons:—

Years	1895-6	1894-5	1893-4	1892-3	1891-2
Piculs	2,682	3,452	3,334	2,446	1,315

**DRAGON'S BLOOD.**—It is a somewhat noteworthy fact that not one package of this drug was offered at to-day's auctions. Common grades are plentiful, but without demand, and owners probably did not think it worth while to offer them for sale. Good bright lump, on the other hand, is much wanted; 9s. 15s. has been paid for fine quality, and 10s. is now the asking-price. The quotations for fair to good dragon's-blood in reed pun, according to holders, from 6s. to 10s. per cwt.

**ERGOT OF RYE.**—The rumours that the *Spanish* crop will be an extremely small one are very persistent, but it is difficult to ascertain their truth as yet. On the whole, ergot does not appear to be quite so plentiful as it has been recently. Of *Spanish* ergot 50 bags were offered to-day, of which 30 bold but very wormy sold at 4d. For 10 bags small grey sound ergot (*Las Palmas*) 5d. per lb., subject, was accepted, and 14 bags small grey lean *Russian* were bought in at 5½d. per lb.

**GAMBoge** suffered a considerable decline to-day. Holders sold freely, 28 cases being disposed of at a decline of from 10s. to 15s. per cwt. Good bright orange, mixed pipe, fairly clean picked, at 8s. 15s. Sorts, partly fair loose pipe, partly blocky, dull and broken mixed at 8s. Fair broken pipe, partly ricey in fracture, at 7s. 15s. to 7s. 17s. 6d. (subject), and good pickings at 7s. 10s. per cwt. It is many months since so much of this drug has been sold at a single auction.

**GUARANA.**—A fair business has lately been done privately in this article for export, and the bulk of the available stock has been taken off the market. Some 25 cases are reported sold at from 2s. to 2s. 2d. per lb.

**GUM ACACIA.**—No business of any importance has taken place since our last report. At auction about 74 packages sorts were bought in, according to quality, at from 60s. to 80s. per cwt.; 7 packages very dusty *Australian* drop were bought in at 7s. per cwt.

**GUM EUPHORBIUM.**—In spite of the recent reports of higher prices for this article, ten serons somewhat dark and very dusty, but fair mixed loose drop, sold cheaply to-day at 18s. 6d. per cwt.

**HONEY.**—In moderate demand at low prices. 19 casks *Jamaican* sold at from 28s. for pale candied of very smoky flavour, and from 23s. down to 20s. 6d. for ordinary yellow to dark brown. 41 cases of *Californian* honey found buyers at from 25s. to 29s. per cwt. for dull mixed candied to fair orange. Several parcels of *New Zealand* and *Honolulu* honey were bought in.

**INSECT-FLOWERS.**—In London the market is very steady, but purchases for this country are now practically finished for the season. From Trieste, however, a fresh advance is reported, owing to heavy buying by American houses. It is said that the U.S. purchased no fewer than 40 tons of old-crop flowers on a single day recently. At auction 6 100-lb. casks of a very pale-looking powder sold, without reserve, at 7d. per lb. A parcel of 12 bales of "open" flowers was bought in at 5s. 10s. per cwt.

**IPÉCACUANHA.**—The deliveries this month have been considerable (some 70 bales), and the position of the article would have been much better all round but for the arrival yesterday of a parcel of 36 bales from Rio. The imports of the season, however, are smaller than usual. Almost all the ipécacuanha offered at to-day's sales was of inferior quality. At to-day's auctions the demand was very good. Of *Brazilian* root 24 packages were offered, of which 18 sold at an advance of 1d. to 2d. per lb. Sound, partly plump, partly lean, at 5s. 2d. to 5s. 3d.; damaged ditto at 5s. to 5s. 3d. per lb. Of *Colombian* root 11 packages were sold, partly at a decline of 1d. to 2d. per lb. Good to mouldy realised from 3s. 10d. to 4s. per lb.

**JALAP.**—The position is unchanged. A parcel of 23 bags announced for sale had not been landed in time to be offered. Another lot of 21 bags partly damaged and worm and any of fine quality was bought in at 8d. per lb.

**KOLA NUTS.**—In fairly plentiful supply; several small lots sold at from 4d. for ordinary pale mouldy to 6½d. per lb. for good dry.

**LIME JUICE.**—Dull of sale. 30 packages fair bright *West Indian* were bought in at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per gallon and 16 of very dark colour, mixed with impurity, sold without reserve at 7d. to 8d. per gallon.

**MANNA.**—We hear that the new *Silician* manna is likely to be quoted at higher prices.

**MENTHOL.**—The market is rather quiet this week, although it is said that the shipments from Japan remain extremely small. In London, from 10s. 3d. to 11s. per lb., according to holder, is asked for fair brands. Business has been done for August delivery at 10s. 7½d. per lb. net. We hear that

Cooking's brand has been sold at 13s. 6d. per lb. The Massachusetts has brought 26 cases from New York.

MUSK in small supply. Of first pile *Tonquin* pods only eight tins were shown, six of these sold at a decline of 3s. per oz.—viz., 57s. per oz. for small to medium fair dry well-trimmed thin grey skin. A lot of well-trimmed damp thin-skin and under-skin pods was bought in at 60s.; for musk trimmings 4s. per oz was paid.

MYRRH is now cheaper than it has ever been known, a fresh decline being established at to-day's auctions. Of 59 packages 20 sold without reserve, at 59s. to 60s. per cwt. for fair pricked, 19s. for small siftings, and 12s. per cwt. for pickings.

OIL (CASTOR).—In good request at rather higher prices. There does not appear to be any good first *Calcutta* oil on the spot below 3d. per lb. At the drug-salers' *castor* oil was well represented, 115 packages being offered, but all bought in. Threepence, it was announced, would have been accepted for pale No. 1 *Calcutta* oil, but no bid was made. In second-hand, second *Calcutta* is still obtainable at 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. in London.

OIL (COD-LIVER).—Our Bergen correspondent writes that the fishing is now quite finished, and the results for the last three years are as follows:—

	1896.	1895.	1894.
Fish caught .. .. ..	48,000,000	66,000,000	67,000,000
Barrels of unrefined oil .. ..	20,000	17,000	20,000
Barrels of liver left for cold drawing .. ..	18,000	28,000	53,000

The shortage of liver left for cold drawing this season is the most striking feature of this comparison, and is, of course, due to the very high prices prevailing for steam-drawn oil during the first time of the season. The scarcity of cold-drawn oil this season will compel a large portion of the consumption of this kind of oil to take steam-drawn, and therefore the increased output of that oil this year will probably not be too large. The market is still quiet, and price is nominally 180s. f.o.b. for best *Lofoten* non-congealing.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—The principal feature in the essential oil market this week has been a considerable turnover in *Star anise* oil, of which about 100 cases are known to have been sold for shipment, October-November to September-December at 5s. 9d. June-August at 6s. 4d. per lb. c.i.f. On the spot from 7s. 6d. to 8s. per lb. is asked according to holder, but no business is reported. September-Oct. bsr delivery has also been sold at 6s. per lb. c.i.f. In *Cassia* oil little or no business is doing. The quotation for 75 per cent. oil on the spot is 7s. 6d.; for July-August shipment 5s. 6d. per lb. c.i.f. The distillation of *Otto* of *rose* has so far been conducted under extremely favourable circumstances. The price of the new oil, however, will not be fixed for some time. *Oil of citronella* has been sold for shipment to the end of the year at 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. c.i.f. terms. At auction three drums, which have been offered before, were bought in at 1s. 6d. per lb. *Oil of lemongrass* is quoted at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. on the spot, and 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ d. c.i.f. to arrive. Of *Cinnamon* oil various parcels were offered at to-day's sales, but all bought in at 6d. per oz. That was also the price at which five cases of *Fisher's nutmeg oil* were bought in. For oil of *Susafras* 2s. per lb. is asked, and three cases of *HGH Peppermint oil* were bought in at 10s. 6d. per lb. Twenty bottles of *Ceiling*'s so-called *Orange oil* were offered without reserve, but there were no bids. Six bottles *Ylang Ylang* oil were sold without reserve, with fair competition, at from 3s. 9d. to 4s. 2d. per oz.

PILOCARPINE.—Dearer. The two makers have increased their quotations from 4s. 5d. to 4s. 10d. per gramme, or, inclusive of gramme tynes, from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 11d. per gramme. It is said that the recent arrivals of jib brandi leaves contain no alkaloid to speak of, but it is also reported that the advance is due to "a better understanding between makers."

POTASH SALTS.—*Permanganate* is dearer and extremely scarce; for prompt delivery small crystals realise 70s. per cwt., and 72s. 6d. per cwt. is asked.

QUININE.—Is practically a dead letter; manufacturers' quotations remain unchanged. It is said that bids of 12s. per oz. have been refused for second-hand German bulk (B. & S. or Brunswick), but we think it would still be possible to buy on those terms.

RHUBARB.—It is still reported that China cannot make any shipments at the quotations now ruling in London. Nevertheless, *Canton* root keeps arriving, and finds a moderately good sale privately; good round at 1s. 4d., small ditto at 1s. per lb. At auction to-day 87 packages were offered. A large proportion (31) sold at fairly steady rates. *Shensi*, small to medium round fair grey and pinky fracture, at 1s.; medium grey partly dark fracture, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. *Canton*, small round druggists', 1s. 8d.; bold flat fair coat pinky grey fracture, 1s. 1d.; medium to bold round fair coat, partly pinky fracture, 1s. 1d.; good round pickings, 1s. 1d.; small flat, 11d.; small to medium round fair pinky fracture, 10d. to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. *High dried* medium to bold fair coat, slightly wormy flat, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.

SANTONIN.—Rather steadier. For large quantities 6s. per lb. is now required.

SARSAPARILLA.—Nine bales of genuine grey *Jamaican* root were offered at to-day's auctions. They came to an entirely bare market, and sold with excellent competition at an advance of about 4d. per lb., sound quality realising 1s. 9d.; damaged, 1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d. per lb. It would now be impossible to buy anything more at these figures. Fifty bales ordinary *Mexican* were bought in at 6d. per lb.; 9 serious *Honduras*, at 1s. to 1s. 1d. per lb.; while 1 bale of dull damaged native *Jamaica* realised 1s. 1d. per lb., subject to approval.

SCAMMONY-ROOT is still tending dearer; 60s. per cwt. it is said, has been paid, and holders now talk of 62s. 6d. The English makers of *scammony*-resin are firm at 9s. 6d. per lb.

SENEGA is reported firmer from New York. Some of the importers do not make any quotations at present, but an upward movement from the exceptionally low rates recently prevalent is not unlikely. To-day 1s. per lb. would still buy.

SENNA.—*Tinnevelly* leaves are fairly held; very little is now being offered by the importers. The small supply of 118 packages of *Tinnevelly* leaves offered to-day was mostly in second hand. It was extremely firmly held, and only 39 bales sold at high prices: 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for fair greenish; 1d. to 2d. per lb. for ordinary dark to small medium yellowish. Pods realised 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb.

SOY.—Good quality *Chinese soy* sells at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per gallon. Twenty casks *China* were bought in to-day at 11d. per gallon.

TEA.—The market has steadied a good deal this week after last week's very irregular prices, and a very big Ceylon sale of over 30,000 packages went off fairly quickly on Tuesday at steadier prices than had been anticipated. Ceylons over 10d. are wanted and well competed for; but, of course, in so big a sale a good many cheap teas ranging from 6d. to 10d. were to be had, and these are being taken more freely in the country, buyers apparently realising that they are safe enough at present prices. The Indian sales consist of Travancores, of old and undesirable Assams, and of poor thin liquoring new Assams and Darjeelings, and are dangerous stock. Scented Capers from 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. were very cheap on Wednesday, with wonderful style for the money, but poor liquor. New Capers are not expected for another month.

TURMERIC.—Good bright *Madras* finger is worth 10s. per cwt. Sales have lately been made at that price.

VANILLA.—In rather small supply and firmly held; for good fresh chocolate 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 8 inches, 24s. 6d. to 25s. was paid, while ordinary lean and foxy realised from 17s. 6d. down to 11s. per lb.

VARIOUS DRUGS.—Ten bales dull *Cus cus* root were bought in at 30s. per cwt. For 10 casks of good pale clean *Cu te-fish* 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. was accepted. A 16 lb. pocket of rather dark *Croton*-seed was bought in, no bids being made. Twelve bales *Coca*-leaves were also bought in at 1s. 2d. for dark *Huancos*, and 1s. 3d. for fair *Truxillo*. Forty-eight bags of fair *Unebs*, without stalks, from *Singapore*, were bought in a 40s. per cwt. *Castorum* is firmly held; 11 lbs. sold to-day at 27s. 6d. per lb. for ordinary dry pickings of little aroma. Fair quality was bought in at from 45s. to 55s. per cwt. A 40 bale parcel of *Cannabis India* was also bought in at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. for very dusty tops. Forty-four bales fair *Ciretta*, from *Calcutta*, were bought in at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb

*Elema* is quite neglected, and in rather heavy supply; 92 packages were bought in, at from 20s. up to 25s. for rather dark pale gum of good aroma. Two cases fair, clean picked yellow grain and drop, *Gum ammoniacum* were held for 50s. per cwt. *Gum accroides*, which was scarcely obtainable some time ago, is now very plentiful. Twenty-four cases from Australia were bought in at auction to-day. A bag of ordinary dark gum cheaply sold, subject to approval, at 1s. 4d. per lb., and a 30-case parcel of ordinary earthy and dark *guaiacum*, imported by New York, was bought in at 1s. per lb. *Kamala* is neglected. A parcel was bought in at 9d. to 10d. per lb. For a case of Australian brownish-red *Kino* gum, from Bombay, no bid could be obtained at 10s. per lb. Three serons broken stalky and dull *Maito* were bought in at 1s. 2d. per lb. One hundred and one bales of dull *East Indian orris* were bought in at 25s. to 26s. per cwt., and 1 case of *Puree* sold at 6s. per lb. *Quassia chips* were bought in at 12s. per ton, for good quality. Logs at 5s. per ton. A parcel of 10 bags slightly mouldy *Cape quince seeds*, of which two sold at 1s. 5d. A quantity of *Sandalwood* chips was bought in at 37s. per ton, and several parcels of *Squill* at from 2d. for dark to 4d. for fair quality. Two bags *Kombé strophanthus* were bought in at 4s. per lb., and 6 bags brown *Fenugreek* seeds realised 7s. 6d. per cwt. Five cases black *Para tonka beans* were bought in at 2s. per lb.

**VERMILION.**—*Chinese* is tending easier. 20 cases *Winghat* were bought in to-day at 2s. 5d. per lb.

**WAX (BEES').**—The demand continues good, but there is also a pretty large supply. A large proportion of the parcels offered to-day showed signs of being deliberately and largely adulterated. The supply was large, but the demand centred only upon two or three varieties. Common Australian wax was lower, good qualities steady. *Zanzibar* went at easier rates, and *Jamaican* was fairly well maintained in price. Of *Madagascar* about 1,200 packages were shown, but only a few lots sold, at 6s. 12s. 6d. for rather dark and wormy. Australian realised from 7s to 7s. 15s. for common to good; fair yellow *Brazilian*, 7s. 5s.; fair to good *Zanzibar*, 5s. 17s. 6d. to 6s. 7s. 6d.; very common adulterated, 40s. to 42s. 6d.; and good *Jamaican*, of which 45 packages were shown, sold at 8s. 2s. 6d. to 8s. 10s. per cwt.

**WAX (JAPAN).**—Still tending lower, various lots of good quality being bought in at from 32s. 6d. to 34s. per cwt.

#### Heavy Chemicals.

During the past week the heavy chemical market has been very dull. Foreign inquiries have not been so numerous, but, on the whole, the home trade continues fairly steady. Reports from the Clyde are not of a very encouraging character, whilst on the Tyne it is a general holiday week on account of the races. Very little is being done for forward shipment to the States. Prices are mostly unaltered. *Bleaching-powder* is in fair request. *Soda ash*, *Soda crystals*, and *Caustic soda* are quiet. *Green copperas* and *Recovered Sulphur* continue very firm. *Benzols* quietly firm, the only alteration in prices from those noted last week being for 50-90 per cent. prompt, which has advanced to 2s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per gallon. *Naphthas* are dull, *Miscible wood* is now quoted 3s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and *Solvent wood* 3s. per gallon. There is no improvement to note in the position of *Sulphate of ammonia*, and only little business is passing. Prices stand just about the same as last quoted; 462 tons were exported from Leith last week. The demand for *Sulphate of copper* continues, but prices are a trifle easier. *Aniline oil*, 7d. to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; *Aniline salts*, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. *Sal ammoniac*, first and second white, unchanged. *Yellow Prussiate of potash* firmer. *Bichromates of potash* and *Soda* are in good request, as are also *Sulphate of alumina* and *Alum*. White powdered *Arsenic* continues very firm, and is still scarce. *Cream of tartar*: crystals, 95s.; powdered, 97s. *Lime salts* are in good supply, with small demand, and prices are depressed. *Chlorate of Potash* in moderate demand. *Lead salts* move fairly well. White *Sugar of lead* stands at 23s. per ton, less 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; brown ditto, 16s. per ton, less 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; and the *Nitrate* 19s. per ton, less 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. *Carbonate* and *Chloride of Barium* steady. *Hyposulphite of soda* confirm.

#### The Liverpool Drug market.

Our Liverpool correspondent, writing on June 24, says that the advanced prices for *Castor oil* noted last week have been fully maintained. Sales of *Calcutta* seconds were made at 2 $\frac{9}{10}$ d., then 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and afterwards at 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., when it seemed to be realised that the spot stock was very small, and holders talked of 3d. per lb. This is now the current price, and only small parcels are available at this figure. First-pressure *French* is held for 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 2 $\frac{5}{8}$ d., and *Madras* for 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb., sales of the latter being made at this price. *Soudan* sorts of *Gum acacia* have been rather neglected again, and no business has transpired. Sellers, however, are firm in their quotations, the prospect of getting fresh supplies being still remote; quotations range practically from 70s. to 90s. per cwt., but really good friable gum is rather scarce here. *Brazilian Niger* and all medium kinds of gum are selling slowly at unchanged rates. Of African *Ginger* sales have been made during the week at 19s. to 20s. 6d. per cwt. *Canary seed* is, if anything, slightly easier for the week. Fresh *Kola nuts* have been arriving more sparsely, and the value is about 6d. per lb., for good fine dry are held for about the same value; common realising about 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 4d. per lb. *Quillaia* is in better demand, and some holders are asking 13s. as imported for good bark in quantity. The only movement in *Honeys* during the week has been in the better grades of *Californian*, which are being gradually reduced. The lower grades offer freely at lower rates. African *Chillies* (*Sierra Leone*) offer in limited quantities at prices ranging 32s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt. *Beeswax*, although arriving somewhat freely, is very firmly held by the importers.

#### The American Drug-market.

New York, June 17.

The market generally is dull, and, with one or two exceptions, sales effected are entirely in purchasers' favour. *Opium* in cases has been sold at \$1.95, but at this moment \$2 is quoted, \$1.97 $\frac{1}{2}$  being probably a trading-basis. The statistical position of *Quinine* is stronger; imported goods are, however, selling as low as 26c. to 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. in large tins. The agents here quote 28c. to 30c. as to brand; a good demand prevails. *Newfoundland cod-liver oil* is unchanged, both in price and general position. In *Balsams* the market presents no new feature, dealings being moderate at former quotations. *Copaiba*: Central American is steady, at 37c. to 38c., and *Para* 40s. *Peru* is selling at \$2, and *Tolu* 52c. to 60c. In *Barks* the market is fairly steady, a limited business being done at former quotations. *Cascara sagrada* is quoted at 4c. to 5c., and *Sassafras* at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to 8c. *Beans*: The demand is brisk, and firm prices rule, *Vanilla* especially absorbing the attention of the consuming-trade. *Tonka* and *Angostura* are quoted \$2 to \$2.25 per lb., and *Para* 20c. to 25c. *Vanilla (Mexican)* is quoted—for whole, \$6.50 to \$12; cut, \$6 to \$6.50; and split, \$7. *Essential oils*: No important movement is under way, either with regard to prices or prospective business, interest in forward deliveries being quiet. *Peppermint oil* in tins is quoted \$1.65 to \$1.90, and in cases \$2.15 to \$2.20. *Pure Sassafras* is steady at 40c. to 42c., and for the artificial variety 30c. to 35c. is quoted. *Oil of wintergreen* is in quiet demand at \$1.25 to \$1.30, and from 60c. to 70c. is quoted for artificial goods. *Oil of wormwood* is selling at \$1.90 in bottles. *Gums*: With the exception of *Chicle*, everything on the list is steady at former prices. *Chicle* has not yet recovered; 29c. has been quoted within the past few days, but there are indications of a decided advance in the near future. *Curacao aloes* is in slow request at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. *Roots*: General market conditions are similar to those reported in previous letter. *Jalap* is steady and in fair supply at 11c. to 12c. *Mandrake* is moving moderately at 4c., and *Senega (Western)* is unchanged at 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to 22c. *Honduras sarsaparilla* is quoted at 28c. to 33c., Central American 15c. to 16c., and Mexican 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to 6c. *Truxillo* stocks being exhausted, no quotations are procurable. *Leaves*: *Coca (Truxillo)* is weak and plentiful, and is quoted at from 18c. to 21c., and *Huanuco* 26c. to 28c. *Beeswax* is offered sparingly at 26c. to 28c. In the line of imported chemicals almost any article on the list may be purchased at prices that latterly have been considered exceptionally low.

## The Hamburg Drug market.

Our Hamburg correspondent writes on June 23: "Business is still exceedingly quiet in this city, and there is very little doing in the drug-trade at present. *Antimony* continues firm at 35m. to 36m. per 100 kilos. *Balsam Peru* is but little offering at 16-30m. to 16-40m. per kilo. *Balsam copaiba* is unchanged, firm at 3-20m. to 3-40m. per kilo. for pure quality. *Camphor (refined)* is again easier, prices have gone down from 275m. to 260m. per 100 kilos. for spot delivery; July-August is quoted 245m. per 100 kilos. *Cassia lignea* is decidedly firmer, fire old quality realises to-day 65m. to 66m. per 100 kilos, broken cassia varies very much in price according to quality, from 22s. to 24s. 6d. per cwt. *Cream of Tartar* is unchanged, quiet. *Glycerine* keeps extremely firm as at yet unchanged prices. *Galangal* is already at 54m. to 55m. per 100 kilos. *Gum acacia* is still unchanged with but little demand. *Ergot of rye*, prime Russian quoted to-day 85m. to 88m. per 100 kilos. *Jalap* is quite unchanged at 120m. to 115m. per 100 kilos. *Honey* continues quiet, without much disposition to buy. *Kola nuts* remain quiet at 90m. to 105m. per 100 kilos. according to quality. *Menthol* is again a shade firmer and held at 21½m. per kilo. *Cod-liver oil* is dull with a very slow demand; 1895 as well as 1896 non-congealing oil can be bought at 165m. per barrel. *White sweet Seal oil* is decidedly firmer, but as yet buyers are not willing to pay the higher prices. *Cajuput oil (green)* is unchanged at 4m. to 4.10m. per bottle. *Peppermint oil*: Japan is quoted 8½m. per kilo, American H.G.H. quiet at 9½m., Todd at 9m. per lb. *Citronella oil* easier, spot 3 10m., forward 2 85m. per kilo. *Star anise oil* is declining and quoted to day 17½m. per kilo. *Spermaceti* unchanged at 300m. to 305m. per 100 kilos. *Quinine* is still neglected at 39m. to 40m. per kilo. *Quick-silver* dull at 133m. per bottle. *Opium* is unchanged at 19-19½m. per kilo. *Sugar of milk* quiet at 139m. to 140m. per kilo. *Carnauba wax* dull; grey 175m., medium 195m., to 200m., fine yellow 230m. to 240m. per 100 kilos. *Japan wax* firmer at 60m. to 62m. per 100 kilos."

A DREADFUL CASE OF POISONING has happened in the United States. A child chewed up a pencil, and the terrified parents called in a doctor, who promptly treated the child for lead-poisoning. The remarkable point is that the child made a rapid recovery, and the doctor has communicated the facts of the case to a medical journal!

THERE is an over-production of whisky in the United States. Large sections of the population may hear this news with equanimity if not with joy. Theirs is a consumers' point of view. But for the distillers the over-production is a serious matter, and the producers of rye-whisky in the Eastern States have accordingly been invited by their Association to stop their works for a year from September 1 next. More in sorrow than in anger the Association upbraids its countrymen for not drinking enough, and gravely points to the "demoralisation caused by the excessive supplies of rye-whisky."

FRENCH CIDER AND GERMAN "CHAMPAGNE."—Normandy has had for more than five centuries the reputation of producing the best cider in the world, and last year was one of the most prolific cider years France has known, the output of the whole country amounting to 25,500,000 hectolitres. Nevertheless, Germany, which cannot compare with France in the production of apples, does an even bigger cider-trade than France herself. Year by year German agents buy up trainfuls of apples in Normandy and Brittany, and despatch them to their own country, where they are made into cider and "sparkling German champagne," and whence they are exported all over the world. In Frankfort-on-the-Main alone there are now fifty cider-factories, some of which have lately established flourishing agencies in England. At the present time France only exports about 13,000 hectolitres of cider a year; Germany ten times as much. The principal German export is to the Levant; next come British India, Australia, the Cape, the United States, and South America. A useful guide to the manufacture of cider has recently been published at Paris by the Société d'Éditions Scientifiques. It is written by an expert, M. Fabius de Champolille.

## London Drug Statistics.

THE following statistics relate to the movement of some of the leading drugs in the London public warehouses in the course of the first five months of 1896 and 1895—January 1 to May 31. The statistics are supplied by the warehouses in question, and their accuracy cannot be guaranteed. It should also be noted that certain warehouses refuse to supply returns, and that several figures, notably those relating to oils of star-anise and cassia and to camphor, are therefore incomplete.

Article	Stocks		Imported		Delivered	
	1896	1895	1896	1895	1896	1895
Aloes.....cs, &c.	4,170	4,763	1,197	964	2,018	823
".....gourds	2,222	2,832	—	—	477	331
Anise, Star.....cs	234	448	1	—	68	28
Arrowroot.....brls	17,092	15,274	10,011	12,759	6,558	7,507
".....bxs & tins	1,818	1,963	467	907	708	1,305
Balsams (all Medicinal).....cks, &c.	919	1,181	249	785	693	747
Borax.....pkgs	10	—	—	—	31	—
Calumba.....bgs.	441	691	15	122	796	473
Camphor (crude) pkgs	14,514	4,107	2,94	3,336	4,713	3,549
Cardamoms ..cs, &c.	571	1,318	963	1,787	1,312	1,201
Cinchona-bark —						
S. American ..cs	58	62	—	—	—	2
bils, &c.	15,264	19,076	1,39	2,778	3,234	3,723
E.I., Ceylon ..cs	296	183	175	73	149	81
and Java (bils	10,786	11,091	9,289	6,895	7,674	7,590
Cochineal.....bgs.	1,730	2,043	967	1,118	976	1,008
Ooculins Ind. ..	171	142	147	—	67	52
Cream of Tartar cks	5	—	4	17	4	17
Cubebb .....	363	300	32	97	68	183
Cutch .....	1,975	2,31	1,127	653	863	1,091
Dragon's Blood ..cs	162	186	84	132	101	133
Galls, China & Jap.,	1,184	350	1,327	573	650	715
Trik. & Prsn. bgs	5,117	—	2,264	—	2,104	—
Gambier .....	917	408	2,455	2,805	2,257	2,863
Gums—						
Ammoniacum pgs	53	153	19	156	37	78
Anini & Copal ..	10,349	11,463	10,679	9,759	9,040	8,001
Acacia ..	13,511	12,114	11,578	9,444	9,203	7,497
Asafoetida ..	843	1,045	736	1,441	656	603
Benzoin ..	1,877	2,368	1,837	2,141	1,468	1,499
Damar ..	3,142	3,990	4,162	4,888	3,104	3,947
Galbanum ..	2	2	—	—	9	—
Gamboge ..	239	216	224	137	144	129
Guaiacum ..	27	95	37	40	67	61
Kino ..	14	13	3	15	3	19
Kowrie .....	937	1,974	958	1,243	1,458	1,417
Mastic .....	28	17	21	—	14	4
Myrrb .....	617	521	263	333	201	295
Olibanum ..	3,849	4,903	4,705	5,045	2,913	3,013
Sandarach ..	336	704	494	541	421	590
Tragacanth ..	4,495	4,360	4,934	3,455	2,448	2,842
Ipecacuanha (Brazil)						
bils	500	727	229	336	313	380
Other kinds pkgs	19	39	70	74	96	127
Jalap .....	260	275	224	294	216	208
Lac Dye .....	2,743	2,902	—	—	51	10
Nitrate Soda ..tins	1,923	4,332	11,300	13,508	11,351	10,570
".....Potash ..	1,672	523	2,741	1,771	1,662	1,463
Nux Vomica ..pkgs	701	1,052	233	906	633	752
Oils—						
Anise .....	80	244	25	389	75	201
Cassia .....	21	153	19	41	29	25
Castor.....cks	122	65	546	103	503	123
.....cs	1,113	1,351	884	1,003	856	1,43
Cocoa-nut .....	450	993	722	1,348	1,014	1,619
Olive .....	1,088	833	1,461	1,71	816	1,033
Palm .....	21	18	48	40	35	23
Quinine, sulph. ½ lbs	112,404	145,760	8,717	7,680	19,589	33,388
Rhubarb .....	528	932	152	737	547	980
Safflower.....pkgs	107	121	65	1	37	27
Sarsaparilla .....	221	445	383	614	430	511
Senna.....bils, &c.	1,039	1,783	805	1,323	2,363	1,898
Shellac, Orange ..cs	23,970	11,831	27,011	12,478	16,729	13,493
Garnet .....	5,689	7,534	3,171	5,574	3,355	3,834
Button .....	7,550	4,191	6,233	4,973	4,571	4,773
Total .....	37,509	23,616	33,475	27,025	24,665	22,100
Sticklac .....	3,160	704	4,824	1,948	2,159	1,619
Turmeric, Bengl. tns	616	311	53	43	161	100
Other kinds .....	517	423	60	165	180	255
Total .....	1,163	740	113	208	341	355
Vermilion ..cbs, &c.	16	18	2	13	2	11
Wax (bees') bils & tns	6-3	424	634	1,571	1,167	1,523
.....cks & cs	116	1,086	1,227	2,083	1,067	1,634
" (Japan) cr, &c.	136	1,170	10	3:0	344	457

† Net weight.



## Memoranda for Correspondents.

In letters for publication correspondents are requested to express their views as concisely as possible.

Correspondents should write on one side of the paper only, and devote a separate piece of paper to each subject of inquiry.

The name and address of the writer should accompany all communications, with, if desired, a distinctive nom-de-plume.

## Chelsea Pensioner.

SIR.—The enclosed is copied from "Five Thousand Receipts, &c.," by Colin Mackenzie, printed in 1823, which I think precedes all the receipts you have by two years. It is almost identical with that sent in by "W. M. M. (101/72)."

## THE CHELSEA PENSIONER'S REMEDY FOR GOUT AND RHEUMATISM.

gum guaiacum, 2 drachms,  
rhubarb, pulv.  $\frac{1}{2}$  drachm,  
flowers of sulphur,  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.  
cream of tartar, 2 drachms,  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  nutmeg, or ginger powder,  $\frac{1}{2}$  dr.

Make an electuary with treacle, and two teaspoonfuls taken night and morning; and if the fit of the gout or rheumatism is severe, a glass of hot rum and water after being in bed: if much fever, white wine and water, or hot gruel. To be continued a few days. If 2 spoonfuls relax the bowels too much, then only one.

I am, yours truly,  
Ootherstone, via Darlington, June 20. E. ANDREWS.

P.S.—The title is printed in capitals; the rest I have copied letter for letter and figure for figure, using capitals and small letters according to original. Note spelling *spoonful*.

SIR.—I copy the enclosed from my box. It has been made up within the last ten or twelve years for a very old lady who was then living here.

1 dr. guaiacum.  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. powdered rhubarb.  
2 oz. flowers brimstone.  
1 oz. cream tartar.  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. best ginger.  
One nutmeg finely powdered to be mixed well in 1 lb.  
of clarified honey.

Two teaspoonfuls to be taken night and morning.

The above receipt was purchased by Lord Anson of Mr. Forbes for 30*l.*, and an annuity of 100*l.*

Fenny Stratford, June 19.

Yours. &c.,  
H. HANDS.

Gua'aci resin ..	..	..	..	..	..	5 <i>ss.</i>
Pulv. potass. bitart.	..	..	..	..	..	3 <i>j.</i>
Sulph. sublim.	..	..	..	..	..	5 <i>ij.</i>
Pulv. rhei	..	..	..	..	..	3 <i>j.</i>
Pulv. zingib.	..	..	..	..	..	5 <i>ss.</i>
Pulv. myrist.	..	..	..	..	..	5 <i>ij.</i>
Mel vel theriac.	..	..	..	..	..	4 <i>s.</i>

Ft. elect.

Macnamara's "Neligan," 6.*h* edition, 1864.

Yours truly,

Hull, June 20. EDWIN FOWLER.

SIR.—Neither the "New Dispensatory," by W. Lewis (1785), nor the "New London Dispensatory," by Thos. Cox (1824), mentions it; but the "London Dispensatory," by Anthony Todd Thomson, M.D., F.L.S. (4th edition, 1826), in a note on guaiacum, says: "The 'Chelsea Pensioner,' a nostrum by which Lord Amherst was cured of rheumatism, is composed of guaiac., 5*j.*; pulv. rhei, 3*j.*; supertart. potass., 3*j.*; snlph., 3*ij.*; nucis myrist. 1 in pulv. trit. et per opem mellis miscet ut fiat electuarium. Two large tablespoonfuls

to be taken night and morning." Rennie (1826) gives only 3*j.* of flowers of sulphur, with same quantity of other ingredients. Beasley's (1842) gives the same as Thomson.

Yours truly,  
Bury St. Edmunds, June 23. W. G. SKOULDING.

SIR.—I enclose copy (verbatim) of form for "Chelsea Pensioner" taken from "Gray's Supplement," London, 1821. I have not been able to trace an earlier form.

G. guaiaci ..	..	..	..	..	..	5 <i>j.</i>
Rhubarb ..	..	..	..	..	..	5 <i>j.</i>
Crem. tart. ..	..	..	..	..	..	3 <i>j.</i>
Fl. sulph. ..	..	..	..	..	..	3 <i>j.</i>
Nuc. mosch. ..	..	..	..	..	..	No. j.
Mellis ..	..	..	..	..	..	1 <i>b.</i> j.

Dose coch. maj. ij., night and morning, in rheumatism.

Yours faithfully,  
Kingston-on-Thames, June 23. EDWARD WHALEY.

Mr. T. Whales, 41 London Road, S.E., also sends the above.

Earl Amherst, to whose ancestor the origin of the recipe is generally attributed, informs us that he is quite unable to corroborate the statement. If true, it would be Jeffery, Baron Amherst, Commander-in-Chief of the British army in North America and of the land forces in Great Britain, who got the formula. Baron Amherst died in 1797.

## More Reminiscences from Mr. Chas. Ledger.

SIR.—Since you published in your journal the reply sent by the Dutch Government to my application for repayment of my outlay in procuring *Ledgeriana* cinchona-seed for them, and for fair treatment on their part generally, I have received five very uncomplimentary letters from various parts of the world impeaching my veracity on account of the phrase "by even repeated liberal payments," which occurs in this letter. Allow me, therefore, to make an explanation. Certainly two payments were made to me—viz., 400 florins in 1865 and 100*l.* in 1881. In justice I think you will admit the public should be told as to reality of ambiguous "repeated liberal payments." I will write no further under this head now, but after my death all of my letters to Government of Netherlands, &c., will be published by an old friend of mine. As I said before, I never placed any fixed price on the seed which my late brother handed to the Consul for the Netherlands in London, that gentleman engaging, after consultation with his "Chief," to pay a fair price for it. And 400 florins (= 33*l.*), plus 100*l.*, was all I ever received.

Do you think the Dutch Government can really believe I was adequately paid? Dr. Hasskarl, who was sent out specially by the Government to collect seeds, failed in his mission. He did not get near the true bark-districts; had he done so he would have been poisoned or murdered in other ways by the Indian bark-cutters. In Peru, at Sandia, in province Carabaya, where he collected the major part of his plants and seeds, the earth in his Wardian cases was mixed with arsenic by the persons he employed. In 1866 I heard in Puno one of those he most trusted, one Clement Enriques, publicly boasting of having with two others mixed arsenic in the earth, and also put arsenic in water-pots the doctor used to water the plants. This will fully account for the doctor finding almost all his plants dead on arrival at Java.

Just compare the results of Dr. Hasskarl's mission—expenses necessary for two years, his salary, expenses of man-of-war detailed to convey him and his plants to Java—and the result of the 133*l.* paid to me. It is that injustice I complain of. Had I been born in Holland I should have been covered with medals and be a wealthy person now. Holland, having acquired great wealth through my timely expenditure of hard-earned money, and refusing even to reimburse me what I spent, condemns me to end my days in an asylum for the destitute.

I have received four communications from friends in the

Bush who wish to become subscribers to your journal. I have told them only those connected with the drug-trade could be so. One party offered me 5*l.* per annum for my weekly copies, with which I could not provide him, for they were already sent by me some hundreds of miles into the interior, and there they are read with the greatest interest; the advertisements are a revelation, I am told from several stations.

Yours faithfully,  
CHAS. LEDGER. (104/31.)

Kenmare, Goulburn, N.S. Wales,  
May 11.

#### Is the Drug trade Overcrowded?

SIR.—Your correspondent "Charlesden" writes as an employer who finds it difficult to obtain assistants who understand their business, and refers to men who could not find their way about his shop in six months. The inference is that the arrangement is at fault, and that the galenical preparations are not placed in alphabetical order, as they should be, in which case six days would be ample for an average man. There are two sides to every question. How many men are there who could complain of ignorant employers?

In an experience of close on twenty years as an apprentice and qualified assistant, I have only met a couple of proprietors who could spread a plaster or make a pill, and have been asked (by a "Minor man," too) why a mixture containing ammon. carb. and syr. scillæ should "fiz up."

If "Charlesden" will pay a good salary he will get a good man every time.

Yours, &c.,  
PLATYPUS. (104/70.)

SIR.—My opinion is that the drug-trade is sufficiently crowded, if not overcrowded, and that it affords no inducement to paterfamilias to follow Mr. Johnston's advice, in the expectation that his hopeful will find plenty elbow-room in it.

The "room at the top" aphorism is true of every trade and profession and is a threadbare simile-ism, and unless paterfamilias is certain he has brought a genius into this postaday world, or is devoid of common sense, he will not allow it to influence him.

Mr. Johnston in his letter gives the figures for qualified men wanting and wanted in two consecutive weeks' supplements, and therefrom finds argument sufficient to convince him the more strongly in his first opinion. With similar reason I might argue from a copy of the *Daily Telegraph* that the market for clerks was greatly under-supplied. Against his tale of only two qualified men for the post worth 120*l.*, let me put one of a dispensership in a hospital recently open. On the day of election seventeen turned up out of almost twice that number of applicants. Of these seventeen at least ten were qualified men, the remainder being army dispensers. And the value of the post was 100*l.*, with hard work to boot.

With reference to "Charlesden's" communication, it is common knowledge that we have in our midst quite a respectable percentage of ninnies and black sheep, but surely the share of them which has fallen to that gentleman has been abnormally great. Eighteen assistants in ten years, and but one of them passably competent! What a record! I should like to hear one of those eighteen's version of the matter. At any rate, if I were "Charlesden" I should be ashamed to publish my business incapacity to select a suitable and competent man more than once during such a long period and after so many repeated opportunities. His dictum that the Minor is no criterion of a man's value as an assistant is more false than true, for, although it is no hall mark, yet the man who obtains it in these days is not wholly incompetent. Moreover, the Minor was not instituted to test a man's ability to knock 5 or 10 per cent. off sums of his employer's stating, and therefore I do not suppose the authorities will give much heed to "Charlesden's" suggestions on that score.

Yours, &c.,  
AN ASSISTANT. (105/48.)

June 23.

#### How to Advertise in the "Diary."

SIR.—It has often occurred to me (as a retail chemist) that the usefulness of your DIARY might be much increased if the

advertisers would exercise a little more ingenuity in putting together their advertisements.

The book being used exclusively by the drug-trade would, one would think, make it peculiarly suited for stating *exact* terms on which goods could be supplied—whether better terms for 5*l.* worth, &c. There seems to be a need of particularising on the part of proprietors of businesses who advertise with you. Why should they be so shy of stating their terms? Why add "terms on application," or words to that effect?

The inclusion of complete price-lists of such firms as Breetfit and Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. is an example to be commended—one is never in doubt where to find *their* price-lists. I suppose wholesale houses get into grooves sometimes, so that such a little matter would hardly appeal to them all; but it is distinctly dispiriting to have to hunt for the price-list of some occasional house in a drawerful of printing when the information could be supplied in a few seconds by referring to the DIARY. It seems to me that much space is wasted in a style of advertisement more suited for the laity than for the drug-trade. Excuse me making this suggestion, but I thought that the "other side" might interest you.

I am, very faithfully yours,  
Dresden Road, N., June 20. SAMUEL W. WOOLLEY.

#### Dog-poisoning.

SIR.—There is a way which I consider the best and safest, and which I do not remember to have seen recommended, and that is, with a dog, tie him to a fence so that forelegs are just off the ground and inject hypodermically about 20 minimis of Scheele's acid into one of his hindlegs. With a cat, put it in a bag and tie up; make a hole in the bag so that one of its legs can be drawn through, and then inject 10 minimis of the acid. Death quickly ensues, and there are no risks of being bitten or scratched by either animals.

After experimenting on scores of animals which I have had brought me to destroy, I have come to the conclusion that the above is the best, easiest, safest, and cheapest method.

Yours faithfully,  
PHÆNIX. (103/36.)

#### Traders' Profits.

SIR.—No one connected with the trade will dispute that for some time past, and at the present time, we are passing through an anxious trial, when the public seems to believe that our profits are so large that we can afford to accept any price offered to us, on the one hand; and, on the other side, some makers appear to think that we must keep their goods for sale, and sell at a price which is clearly unremunerative. Quite recently I have observed letters in your journal pointing out the liberal (!) spirit shown by a maker of pills, and also by a maker of night-lights; and a few days ago I was asked by a customer who bought a 4*s.* *fd.* stamped bottle of Ruspin's styptic to open it, and when he had gone I examined the papers wrapped round the bottle, and was very much surprised to find a bill, which says:—

"To cheapen this valuable medicine for medical use . . . The terms charged to wholesale trade and to special agents will enable the sale of liquor at 1*s.* per oz. retail."

Upon looking at Newbery's and Barclay's lists, I find the price for dispensing is 11*d.* per oz. It would be interesting to know where the profit comes in if medical men are to be charged 1*s.* per oz., have three months' credit, and 5 per cent. It may be said that this article should be invoiced net. Then comes the difficulty of making a division in your statement, entailing additional labour, and the time occupied takes away part of this munificent profit. But why should this bill be put round a bottle for retail sale—is it to teach the purchaser that he is paying too much? It seems to me the greatest opponents to our making a living profit are to be met with in our own trade. Not long ago a certain soap firm advertised that "cutters" were requested to leave their preparations alone. Then the same firm advertised the lowest selling-price of a 4*d.* tablet of soap was 3*½d.*, and now a reduced price is mentioned for perfumes. Then, again, I find that commercial representatives of some wholesale drug-houses are the very people who tell their friends they ought not to give more than so and-so for the article

hey are wishing to buy. Is it not time the members of our trade determined to maintain a certain *esprit de corps*? Never mind what your customer may say is charged by the chemist round the corner, or a little further up the lane. Calculate the cost, estimate the profit you should have to pay working and living expenses, and charge accordingly. If the would-be customers turn to go out, let them go. Although such men as Whiteman have carried on their businesses for years, it has not prevented many others from making a good living-profit; and at the present time, in every large town, where you are sure to find a cutting draper or grocer, you yet meet with tradesmen who do a respectable trade.

Yours,

WANDERER. (104/68)

## LEGAL QUERIES.

*Immediate information on pharmaco-legal matters is available in "Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom," Alpe's "Handy-book of Medicine-stamp Duty," and THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY.*

99/73 *Apenta.*—The executors of the deceased chemist can, as such, carry on the business if they employ a qualified man to manage it for them. Whether the executor who is also a son of the deceased can hold the entire interest in the business depends on the terms of his father's will.

99/10 *Buchu.*—If you sell a toothache-essence made with methylated spirit you will be liable to a fine on conviction.

102/74. *T. H. W.*—The supply of drugs to a union is, we should say, a wholesale transaction, and may therefore be undertaken by an unregistered person.

102/73. *Enquirer.*—Powders consisting of phenacetin only are exempt from medicine-stamp duty, no matter how they are labelled or advertised.

102/35. *J. H.*—If you sell a proprietary medicine containing a poison from the second part of the schedule, you must see that it is labelled with the name of the poison, with the word "Poison," and with your name and address. If it contains a poison from part 1 of the schedule, the proper entries must also be made.

102/63. *Kimia* has a dispute with a wholesale druggist. Some goods arrived damaged. The goods were signed for on the carriers' paper as "not examined," and when the breakage was discovered the carriers were requested to examine the package, but they failed to do this. Then "Kimia" wrote to the wholesale house and expressed the opinion that the fault lay with them, as there was evidence of careless packing. The consignors repudiate all responsibility, as they rely on a paragraph printed in their terms of business stating that they employ experienced packers and cannot make any allowance for breakage or for goods lost in transit. "Kimia" asks for advice. Our legal authority, after looking into this matter, expresses the opinion that the words relied upon by the consignor would not exempt him from liability if negligence in packing could be proved. The case, he says, seems to be almost on all fours with "owners' risk" in railway contracts, but the matter is not free from doubt. We asked if the right to sue did not rest with the person who paid the carriage. Our lawyer replies: The proper person to sue the carriers is generally the consignee, and certainly so in this case if he decides that they are in fault. The fact that the consignor pays the carriage does not make any difference, because he is supposed to pay the carriage as agent for the consignee. The payment of the carriage by the consignor enables him also to sue the carrier in his own name, as is also the case where the property in the goods has not passed to the consignee, as, for instance, where the goods are sent on approval or there is no valid contract for sale.

105/67. *Radix*—Application for registration of a trademark costs 5s., and the subsequent registration, if allowed, 20s. See *C. & D. DIARY*, 1896, page 381.

107/7. *H. W.*—We can only repeat that if the soap and wafers contain arsenic they must be sold under the conditions required by the Pharmacy Act as preparations of arsenic.

## MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

*N.B.—All queries should be accompanied by the business card of a subscriber, or the address label from THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST wrapper. We destroy anonymous letters. We do not answer queries of the kind here dealt with by post. We ask that separate queries shall be written on separate sheets of paper.*

*No samples will be analysed and reported upon unless the sender labels the sample with his name and the name of the article, and informs us (not necessarily for publication) by whom the article is made, for what purpose and how it is used, and any further particulars of interest.*

*Back numbers containing formulae, educational or other specific information can be obtained from the Publisher.*

91/31. *Yorkshire Bite.*—Try the following formula for the Condition-powder for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, &c. It should give a preparation similar to your sample:—

Turmeric, in powder	..	..	..	..	3 <i>iv.</i>
Anise, in powder	..	..	..	..	3 <i>j.</i>
Fenugreek, in powder	..	..	..	..	3 <i>j.</i>
Liquorice, in powder	..	..	..	..	3 <i>jij.</i>
Locust-meal	..	..	..	..	3 <i>viii.</i>

Mix.

Dose for a horse: A tablespoonful.

95/59. *H. W. C.*—The Polishing powder for Brass, as used by brassfounders, appears to be a mixture of equal parts of putty-powder and French chalk.

95/68. *Retap.*—We cannot say what the plaster for cancer is made of, except that it closely resembles Poor Man's Plaster. We have failed to detect arsenic in it, which is generally the active principle of "certain cures" for cancer. A grain or two of material is not enough for analysis.

98/16. *H. H.*—The New Blue Suitable for Laundry-work is a solution of aniline blue, probably 3*B.*, about 1 oz. to the gallon of water, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of carbolic acid to keep it from becoming mouldy.

96/14. *A. D.*—Diarrhoea-mixture, like your sample:—

Pulv. cretae præp.	..	..	..	..	3 <i>iv.</i>
Pulv. cretae aromat.	..	..	..	..	3 <i>vj.</i>
Spt. menthae pip...	..	..	..	..	3 <i>j.</i>
Spt. camphoræ	..	..	..	..	3 <i>ss.</i>
Syrupi	..	..	..	..	3 <i>jij.</i>
Aq. ad	..	..	..	..	3 <i>xx.</i>

M.S.A.

Dose: 3*ss.* or more for an adult.

The next time you send a sample, please be quite precise in regard to dose, &c., otherwise we must decline to reply.

87/59. *S. J. Elliott.*—You do not seem to be aware that uranium intensified negatives are of an orange colour. What you regard as merely a stain is the action of the intensifier.

104/21. *An Old Subscriber.*—No certificate is accepted in lieu of the pharmaceutical Preliminary examination unless it contains Latin, and, as your son's does not, he must pass the Preliminary before he can enter for the Minor.

94/39 *Capsules.*—You will find the information you want in "At full"—the page previous to the one you quote from.

100/55. *Alpha.*—Cells for Electrolytic Removal of Hair, &c.—Though formerly much used, we should not now recommend bichromate cells, as they require periodical skilled attention, and are somewhat troublesome as regards the liquid. On the other hand, they possess these advantages over most other cells—(1) that a smaller number are required for a given current, and (2) that a stronger current may be drawn from them for a given period. Constant-current batteries for "galvanisation" are now usually formed of one or other of the many varieties of the Leclanché cell (dry or wet). Dry cells with moderate use will last a long time without attention, and there is no liquid to spill. For instance, the "E.C.C." dry cell is made up in batteries of from twelve to fifty cells, especially for medical use, by the General Electric Company, 71 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.; and Section O of their catalogue gives full particulars. It is impossible to say what number of cells would be necessary to send a current of five milliampères through the body, as it greatly depends upon the parts of the body to which the electrodes are applied, and on the skin resistance, which varies greatly with different purposes. In dealing with superfluous hairs and corns, however, the electrodes would be near together, and the number of cells necessary would not be great.

99/65. *J. Hill.*—We presume that the *Liq. Podophylli Ammon.* not precipitable by acids is made direct from the rhizome with a proof-spirit menstruum containing liq. ammon.  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. to 1 pint. Strength of the liquor, 2 oz. of rhizome to 1 pint. A nice Ammoniated Tincture is—

Resin. podophyll. .. .. .. ..	gr. xvij.
Spt. ammon. arom. .. .. .. ..	3j.

Macerate three days, and filter.

This becomes opalescent in acidulated water.

99/40. *A. E. Daris.*—The Cure of Hay-fever is not an easy thing. Some people are benefited by a remedy which does not do others a bit of good. Valerianate of zinc has recently been highly spoken of as a preventive. It is given in 3-grain doses thrice daily in pill form.

#### 101/5. *B. H. A.*—(1) Non-poisonous Fly-papers:—

Quassia .. .. .. .. ..	3xvj.
Colocynth .. .. .. .. ..	3iv.
Long pepper .. .. .. .. ..	3iv.
Boiling water .. .. .. .. ..	Cong. ij.

Macerate four hours, and strain.

Use the strained infusion for saturating the paper. An additional gallon of liquor can be got from the drugs by a second infusion. (2) Label-paste.—See *C. & D.*, April 6, 1895, page 507.

#### 97/74. *Progress.*—Spirit-varnish:—

Sandarac .. .. .. .. ..	3xvj.
Brown shellac .. .. .. .. ..	3viii.
Elemi .. .. .. .. ..	3iv.
Gum thins .. .. .. .. ..	3iv.
Spirit .. .. .. .. ..	Cong. j.

Shake occasionally until dissolved, and strain.

For mahogany colour, with dragon's-blood; for walnut, with Bismarck brown or Nankin brown. The varnish is right for pale oak, but for satinwood use white shellac. For Black Spirit-lacquer try the addition of nigrisine 3j. and methyl blue gr. x. to each pint of lacquer (3 oz. seedlac to 1 pint of spirit).

116/96. *Carbo ligni.*—The sticky fly-paper composition can be altered in stickiness by adjusting the quantities of boiled oil and castor oil. The addition of a few drachms of cassie or other floral pomade to the composition makes one of the best attractives; essence of pear is also good.

98/52. *Circumspect.*—See pages 335 and 679 of the current volume.

95/64. *K. T.*—The arsenic will not dissolve completely, but that is not necessary as it is intended to form sulphide of arsenic. A pound of arsenic is sufficient to dip forty sheep. You should read the article in the *C. & D.* of April 13, 1895, page 523.

94/30. *A. S. (N.S.W.).*—(1) Melt the carbolic acid by heat, add to the vaseline, and shake well. (2) Essence of Lemon for culinary purposes is generally made by dissolving 1 part of oil of lemon in 7 parts of absolute alcohol. Rectified spirit does as well if you filter through kaolin. Tincture of fresh lemon-peel, strengthened with terpeneless oil of lemon, is also good. (3) We are inquiring. (4) The only way you can be registered as a chemist and druggist in Great Britain is to pass the Preliminary and Minor examinations.

### INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

For this section we are always glad to receive from subscribers brief notes on practical subjects, recipes which have been found good in practice or which have required modification, and hints or fresh ideas on any pharmaceutical or trade matter.

#### 100/74.—Dr. Congreve's Stronger Liniment:—

Liq. ammon. fort. .. .. .. ..	3ss.
Tinct. belladonnae .. .. .. ..	3ss.
Spt. camphoræ .. .. .. ..	3ss.
Ol. terebinthinae .. .. .. ..	3ss.

M. Fiat linimentum.

Low Fell, Gateshead, June 19.

R. SHEEL.

*Mr. William Duguid*, Glasgow, and *Mr. F. Strawson*, Calne, also send the same. *Mr. W. G. Stratton* sends it without turpentine.

I dispensed the following a short time ago:—

Lin. saponis co. .. .. .. ..	3iijss.
Lin. camph. co. .. .. .. ..	3iijss.
Tinct. belladonnae .. .. .. ..	3iijss.
Ol. cajeput. .. .. .. ..	3ij.

M. Ft. lin.

Sig.: Use as directed.

J. E. KIRKPATRICK.

*Gould's Prescription.*—Mr. Haynes's rendering is more correct than yours, but I think Mr. Haynes's will stand improving—

Assar-bark	= sassafras
Codru-root	= burdock-root
Kradna-root	= mandrake-root
Rolique-root	= liquorice-root
Noil-root	= dandelion
Rock-root	= gentian-root
Tacher	= chiretta

The only doubtful one is the rock-root, and, as Mr. Haynes has examined a parcel and found gentian, that is probably the mysterious synonym. If you reverse the letters italicised in second and third articles, you will see their application. I have always made it up as above.

Yours,  
M. R. WARNER.

Troghall Lane, Warrington,  
June 19.

### INFORMATION WANTED.

The Editor invites, on behalf of inquiring subscribers, postcard replies to the following:—

*D. E. C.* (105/2) Makers of triple mirrors, or dealers in same.

94/30. Brushes for applying sulphur hair-restorer: where obtainable?

98/27. What is used by dairymen to thicken cream?

97/48. What varnish is used for tipping clay pipes?

100/28. Will any who have used glycerine for part of the spirit in essences please communicate the results they have obtained? An Admirer wishes to know.